

Abu Dhabi D 8.50	Hong Kong HK 8.25	Oman OY 1.20
Albania L 2.20	Hungary H 2.20	Poland P 1.20
Andorra FF 10	Indonesia I 1.20	Portugal P 2.50
Australia AU 9.50	Iran IR 1.20	Qatar Q 0.50
Bahrain B 0.50	Israel IS 0.50	Romania R 1.20
Bangladesh BF 0.50	Italy I 3.00	Russia RU 2.20
Belgium B 0.50	Japan J 1.20	Samoa S 1.20
Belize BZ 0.50	Korea KR 1.20	Slovakia SK 0.50
Canada CA 1.20	Kuwait KW 1.20	Slovenia SI 0.50
Czech Republic CZ 0.50	Laos LA 0.50	Spain S 2.50
Denmark D 0.50	Latvia LV 0.50	Sweden SE 1.20
Egypt EG 0.50	Lithuania LT 0.50	Switzerland SF 3.20
Finland FI 0.50	Malaysia M 0.50	Taiwan TW 0.50
France F 1.20	Maldives MV 0.50	Thailand TH 0.50
Germany DM 3.50	Malta ML 0.43	Turkey TL 1.20
Greece G 4.00	Mexico MX 1.20	USA US 2.20
	Norway NK 1.20	

The Guardian

INTERNATIONAL

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NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR 46,548

Part 2 of the Howard Marks story

Busted

G2 with European weather

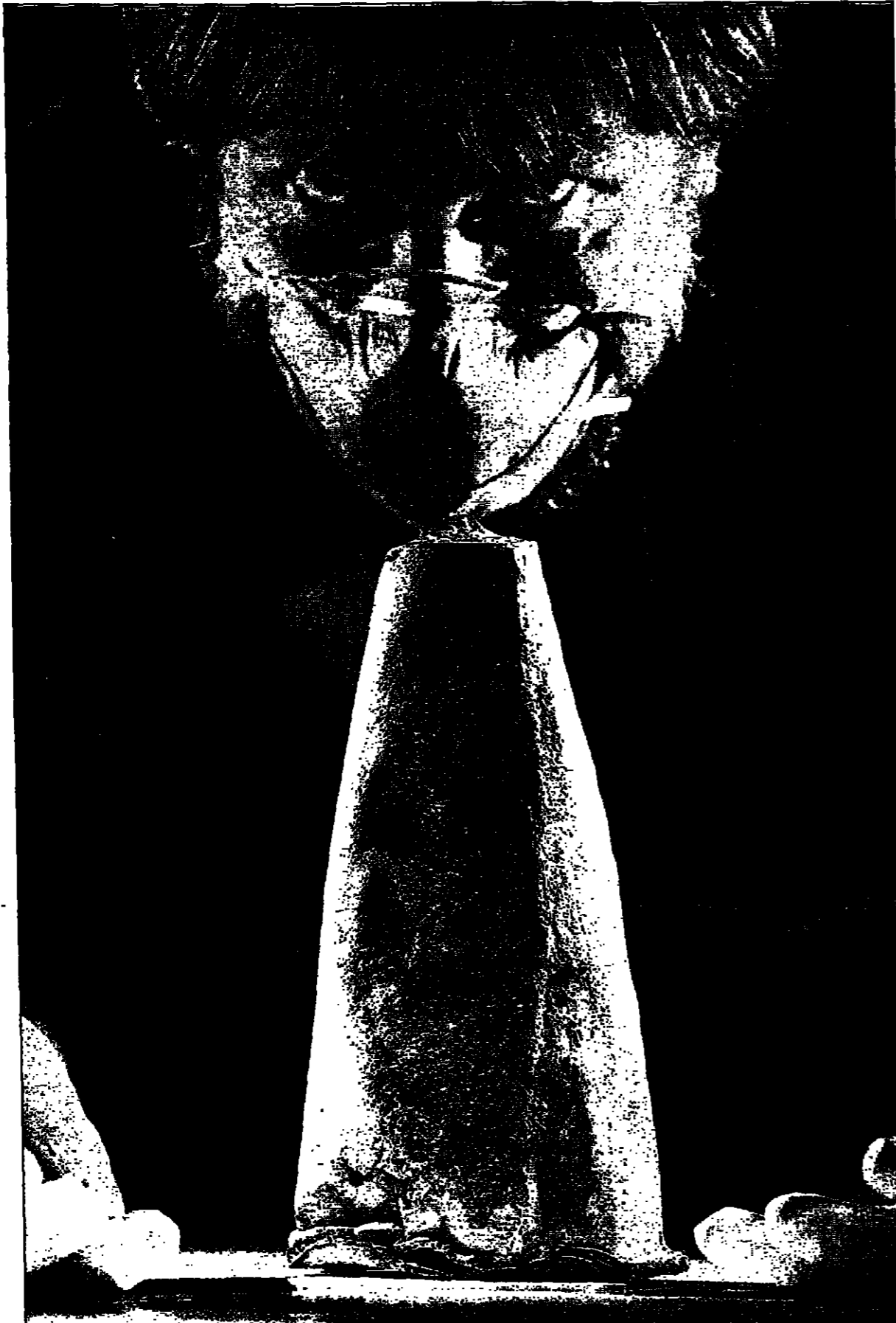
Interview

Interview

Women

Education

Education



The heart of Scottish hero Robert the Bruce made a veiled appearance in a laboratory yesterday, where its shroud was inspected by head of conservation at Historic Scotland, Richard Welander. Full story, page 2. PHOTOGRAPH: MURDO MACLEOD

Saddam plays cat and mouse with US

Martin Walker in Washington and Ian Black in London

THE White House last night dismissed as "insignificant" reports of Iraqi withdrawals from Kurdistan as President Bill Clinton moved towards ordering a limited punitive air strike against Saddam Hussein despite widespread international misgivings.

United Nations officials in Irbil said Iraqi forces had pulled back from the city, but Washington and London continued to talk tough. Iraqi opposition groups maintained pressure for Western actions reporting mass executions and more than 200 tanks ringing the city, and insisting Baghdad could not be trusted.

"The president has a defined course of action," Mr Clinton's spokesman, Mike McCurry, said after the national security adviser, Tony Lake, briefed Mr Clinton in Little Rock, Arkansas, with the latest satellite and aerial reconnaissance photographs and a list of options.

"There is some evidence of an Iraqi redeployment, but we see no indication that they are preparing withdrawal back to their original forward positions," Mr McCurry said.

But Mr Clinton clearly found it hard to resist the temptation of support for action against Iraq, with public doubts from Russia — a UN Security Council member — as well as Turkey and key Arab allies including Jordan and Egypt. Both were visited yesterday by the chairman of the US joint chiefs of staff, General John Shalikshvili.

Comments from Britain, with aircraft and ships in the area, were guarded but nebulous, suggesting John Major would go along with whatever



An Iraqi soldier fires a machinegun during the Irbil takeover.

Mr Clinton decided — though this will clearly be harder if an Iraqi withdrawal is confirmed.

France, which helps the US and Britain police the northern Iraqi "no-fly zone" but has been keen to restore normal relations with Baghdad, declined all comment relating to possible military action in the region.

Jordan said publicly it would not authorise the use of its Azrak airbase for US air strikes. In Amman, King Hussein told Gen Shalikshvili that outside parties should not intervene in Iraq's affairs.

Turkey, a Nato ally now led by an Islamist prime minister, said the US had yet to ask its permission to use the Incirlik airbase for anything but reconnaissance. Ankara asked the UN not to delay implementation of the food-for-oil deal suspended on Sunday.

Gulf support for military action is likely to be stronger, with Kuwait and Saudi suspicion of Iraqi ambitions tempered only by concern to reduce Iranian influence.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, said during a visit to Tokyo: "I don't think the world should be fooled by

the pretext given by Saddam Hussein. It is not because of Kurdish rivalry that he has sent tanks to the area. His objective is to re-establish his control over all of the Kurdish area and to try to regain control of northern Iraq.

"If he regained control of all of Iraq he could contemplate a renewal of aggression. It is clearly a grave violation of the safety area, the safe zone, and I believe there can be no justification for action of this kind."

Denying reports of an Iraqi pullback, the Iraqi National Congress, an umbrella opposition organisation, said there were still more than 270 tanks in the Irbil area and that the Iraqi flag was flying over all buildings of the Kurdish regional government.

"Iraqi troops have committed mass executions in Irbil itself of PUK (Patriotic Union of Kurdistan) members — some of them have been executed in the streets. A few

hundred have been killed. Many hundreds have been arrested," a PUK Ankara representative, Shazad Saib, said.

He said the rival Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) was guiding Iraqi troops from door to door armed with lists of people opposed to the Baghdad government. But a KDP spokesman said Iraqi troops had left Irbil.

However, Hero Talabani, the wife of the PUK leader, apparently escaped to Sulaymaniyah. She was earlier reported to have been detained by the KDP.

In London, Ahmed Chalabi, president of the INC executive council, said punitive action was not enough. He called for the extension of the northern no-fly zone to the whole of Iraq, restricting the movement of armoured units to around Baghdad, and a UN commission to determine whether Saddam Hussein is guilty of war crimes.

He called on the international community to take immediate action over INC members arrested by the Iraqi secret service.

In Washington Mr Clinton faced strong domestic pressure "to show resolve" and punish Iraq, as the Republicans widened their accusations of his "failures of leadership". But his presidential rival Bob Dole did not mention Iraq in his rally at St Louis, Missouri, yesterday.

Some House spokesmen complained that he was breaching the tradition that the US "speaks with one common voice" during a crisis.

Caught napping, page 6; Letter comments, page 6; Martin Woolcott, page 9

A baby? Not in my time you don't

Van driver wins case over time off for birth

Stuart Millar

ALL Robert Stennings wanted was some time off for the birth of his child. But when the 29-year-old van driver decided to put the delivery of his daughter before that of central heating supplies, his boss told him not to bother coming back.

An industrial tribunal in Manchester yesterday awarded Mr Stennings £1,735 after ruling that he had been unfairly dismissed by Supra Heat. The tribunal heard that Michael Johnson, owner of the three-man company, had forbidden Mr Stennings to be at his wife's side unless he could give a date for the birth.

Mr Stennings, who had worked for the company for 10 years, said when he announced that his wife, Caroline, was pregnant, Mr Johnson had told him: "Don't



Robert Stennings... 'A man should be at his wife's side'

expect time off for hospital appointments." She gave birth to their daughter Charlotte in March.

Mr Stennings said: "He said a pilot or a ship's captain would not be able to turn back on a flight or a cruise because of a birth. He said he would sack me... I broke down crying and said my wife was in hospital and I appealed to him, saying I wanted to be with her."

The tribunal decided Mr Johnson had acted unreasonably, but held Mr Stennings was 50 per cent to blame because he had said he was going to take time off, rather than making a request.

Earlier, Mr Johnson told the tribunal: "My company won't revolve around the birth of a child and I don't think that is unreasonable... My wife spent 26 hours in labour with our first child.

Did Mr Stennings want to take God forbid, a day and a half off?"

After the ruling, Mr Stennings, now a packer with a biscuit firm, said: "I would do the same again. A man should always be at his wife's side."

But Mr Johnson said: "I appreciate it was a very special occasion for Mr Stennings but he should have more respect for my company and its customers. It is another nail in the coffin of small businessmen."

Under European Union law, fathers in other member states are entitled to a minimum of three months off work without pay. But Britain's opt-out of the Social Chapter denies British fathers this right.

A spokesman for Parents at Work said: "This case only strengthens calls for potentially leave to be made a statutory right."

Many employers do allow time off, but rights vary enormously. Fathers working for the Labour Party are entitled to four weeks' paid leave, another organisation only offers two days, barring exceptional circumstances. Its name: the Child Support Agency.

Investors in limbo as City firm probes 'irregularities'

Richard Miles

TENS of thousands of investors were left in limbo yesterday after one of the City's most prestigious money management companies, Morgan Grenfell Asset Management, suspended dealings in three of its most successful investment funds and announced it was investigating "possible irregularities".

Dealings in three unit trusts — the MG European Growth Trust, the MG European Capital Growth Fund and the MG Europa Fund, which have attracted more than £1.4 billion of investors' money — were stopped indefinitely after the institution suspended one of its top fund managers, Peter Young.

Mr Young has received widespread praise for the success of investments under his control since he joined Morgan Grenfell four years ago. Colleagues said he cleared his desk on Friday. There was no answer at his Buckinghamshire home last night.

Morgan Grenfell, which is owned by Germany's Deutsche Bank and manages in-

vestments worth £70 billion worldwide, is carrying out an internal investigation and has contacted Imro, the City watchdog which monitors the fund management industry.

The three funds are all unit trusts specialising in European stocks. Many private investors have pensions or savings invested in the biggest, the £778 million European Growth Trust, which trades on the Irish Stock Exchange.

Mr Young, who has also launched an investigation into the irregularities at the institution.

Disclosure of the investigations, believed to be in their early stages, comes days after blue-chip investment house Jardine Flemings was fined £400,000 by Imro and forced to pay £12 million compensation to investors. Jardine found a former fund manager had cheated clients by pocketing profits.

Mr Young, who previously worked for City institutions Mercury Asset Management and Equity & Law was well-torn to page 2, column 6

Trusts frozen and City Notebook, page 11

Why Are You Shamed

By Your Mistakes In English?



A SIMPLE technique for acquiring a swift mastery of good English has just been announced. It can double your powers of self-expression. It can pay you real dividends in business and social advancement, and give you added poise, self-confidence and personal effectiveness.

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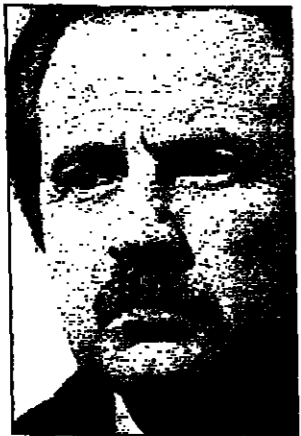
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July 1996



As veterans of the 1960s Bolivian rebellion accuse their former friend Fidel Castro of betraying the guerrilla hero, Cuba and Che's daughter are hitting back

Paul Webster on a Latin skirmish



Régis Debray (top left), and Aleida Guevara standing in front of the famous image of her father, Che

MAIN PHOTOGRAPH: NICHOLAS REYNARD

Old comrades trade insults over Che

REGIS DEBRAY and Darriel Alarcon Ramirez, two rare survivors of Che Guevara's 1960s Bolivian rebellion, have publicly turned against their former Cuban backer and friend Fidel Castro, opening up 28-year-old wounds with accusations of treachery by Havana. Cuba has in turn accused Mr Debray, who was jailed and tortured by the Bolivian army, of betraying Che. It has also denounced him as a "traitor" for encouraging an exiled Cuban resistance movement of which Mr Ramirez — better known as Benigno — is a leader. Havana's condemnation came after the two men published books describing Dr Castro's regime as Stalinist and claiming that he had abandoned the rebels to their fate in 1967. Mr Debray opened the war of words with his book *Praise be Our Lords*. This has now been followed by Mr Ramirez's volume, *The Life and Death of the Cuban Revolution*, written from his refuge in Paris. In the ensuing verbal skirmish, Che's daughter, Aleida Guevara, who is married to a member of the Cuban security

forces, has blamed Mr Debray for "talking more than necessary" while in prison, six months before her father was captured and shot by a Bolivian army firing squad in October 1967. Ms Guevara was aged six at the time. "He was never really Che's companion," she said. "It's sad that a man like Régis Debray, so linked to communism and the socialist movement, should pass suddenly and totally to the other side." Yesterday, Mr Debray, whose political conversions have included belated admiration for Charles de Gaulle and disillusionment with the late Socialist president, François Mitterrand, issued a statement to the newspaper *Le Monde* saying he had written enough about the rebellion in *La Guérilla du Che* in 1974 not to have to justify his behaviour, in prison, every time it suits Havana to spit on its old friends. He accused Ms Guevara of being under Dr Castro's orders when she attacked him in an interview in *Clarín*, a newspaper in Argentina, Che's native country. Denouncing Havana's "Stalinist" tactics, Mr Debray added that Cuba's police state had become its own caricature.

"This fall from grace does not justify the American embargo which... I condemn," Mr Debray said. "For my part... I have put a full stop to this political period [in Bolivia] but these insults will not make me forget its nobility." Referring to official Cuban accusations that he was a traitor, Mr Debray said he was being attacked because of the absurd suspicion that he had encouraged resistance and was responsible for the defection of Benigno. Yet both men have been at odds with the regime since the execution in 1969 of four of Dr Castro's closest associates, including Tony de la Guardia, a friend of Mr Debray. Mr Ramirez — Benigno — described Ms Guevara's attack on Mr Debray as "new proof of the cynical Stalinism which has taken hold of a revolution which I loved and served when it was still a revolution." "With its infamous and imagined accusations, Castro's regime is clouding the questions: Why were we abandoned to our fate in Bolivia? In my book I have given some concrete reasons and I can continue to do so."

Historic squabbles

FIDEL CASTRO was born in 1927 in Cuba. He had a law practice in Havana before launching the guerrilla struggle against the Batista regime in 1953. Sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment, he concluded his defence with the words: "History will absolve me." Exiled in 1955, he returned in 1956 with a small band of fighters. After the revolution in January 1959 he became prime minister and later president. When the United States imposed a trade embargo, Castro aligned Cuba with the Soviet Union, and is currently the world's second-longest-serving head of state. ERNESTO "CHE" GUEVARA was born to wealthy parents in Argentina in 1928. As a young medical student he toured South America on a 1950s Norton 500cc motorcycle. In 1954 he went to Guatemala to join the newly elected left-wing regime. After the CIA coup he fled to Mexico

where he met Castro in 1955, and joined the group that led the Cuban revolution. Castro appointed him industry minister but he left Cuba in 1965 to foment international revolution. He died leading an ill-fated guerrilla column in Bolivia in October 1967. ALEIDA GUEVARA was born in 1961, the child of Che's first wife. The family was left behind in Cuba when he left first for Zaire, then for Bolivia. Aleida was educated in Havana, trained as a doctor, and became a paediatrician. Close to Castro, she volunteered to work in Angola during the war with South Africa. REGIS DEBRAY, born in 1940, is one of France's most controversial intellectuals. He was one of only six to survive the Bolivian army ambush which led to Che's death in 1967. As a military officer he served in Cuba's interventions in Africa in the 1970s and trained thousands of guerrillas, mainly from Latin America and Africa. As head of presidential security he averted numerous assassination attempts against Castro, as well as overseeing and the Cuban prison system. He retired in 1993, moving to France last September. In *The Life and Death of the Cuban Revolution* he accuses Castro of instituting a Stalinist dictatorship and says he "can't be completely sure" Castro ordered Guevara's death.

human rights movement, but alienated the left, with his admiration for De Gaulle, his disillusionment with Castro. DARRIEL ALARCON RAMIREZ was born in 1941 and at the time of the revolution was a peasant turned-guerrilla, aged 17. He was one of only six to survive the Bolivian army ambush which led to Che's death in 1967. As a military officer he served in Cuba's interventions in Africa in the 1970s and trained thousands of guerrillas, mainly from Latin America and Africa. As head of presidential security he averted numerous assassination attempts against Castro, as well as overseeing and the Cuban prison system. He retired in 1993, moving to France last September. In *The Life and Death of the Cuban Revolution* he accuses Castro of instituting a Stalinist dictatorship and says he "can't be completely sure" Castro ordered Guevara's death.

EC hushed up the BSE scandal for five years

Stephen Barber in Brussels

AN OFFICIAL cover-up of the BSE scandal by the European Commission emerged in Brussels yesterday, overshadowing the start of an inquiry by the European Parliament into the handling of this year's beef panic. Documents disclosed by the French newspaper *Libération* show that senior commission officials desperately tried to prevent publicity about BSE leaking out for five years in order to stave off consumer alarm and maintain the stability of the meat market. Phillip Whitehead, the Labour MEP for Staffordshire East and Derby, who is a member of the inquiry committee, said: "We will be looking at the extent to which there was a misguided operation to fob the public off. There seems to have been a very shaky line between mass panic and legitimate consumer concerns." The documents — which were not disclosed by the commission yesterday — indicate that former Tory Minister of Agriculture, Lord Gormanston, who was in charge of the commission's agriculture directorate, to his Italian colleague Riccardo Palaschi, then head of the internal market directorate responsible for a committee on foodstuffs. In it Mr Legras warns of the risk of causing a consumer panic. "All discussion of BSE inevitably causes problems in the meat market. Last January we had an alarm following a programme on German television and it was only due to our prudence and discretion at that time that we avoided a panic."

Mr Legras's professor, the Spaniard Fernando Manetto, was warning the member states' chief veterinary officers at a meeting, according to the minutes: "It is necessary to have a cold attitude in order not to provoke unfavourable reactions in the market. BSE ought not to figure on the agenda." It was suggested then in a memorandum by a French official, Gilbert Castille, that the UK ought to be asked not to publish the results of its scientific research, saying "it would be better to minimise BSE by practising disinfection. It would be better to say that the Press has a tendency to exaggerate." Other documents between officials during the period also warn against opening up a public debate. A British commission official was asked to include a paragraph in a letter to the German government in October 1983 on the political risks of mounting a public debate: "The affair has caused plenty of noise and led to much damage at the consumer level." In London, the Ministry of

'Documents show the desire to prevent the public being informed of the dangers'

Agriculture and government sources decline to comment on the disclosures on the grounds that they were private commission matters, but said that Britain would co-operate fully with the European Parliament's inquiry. Philippe de Villiers, a French Eurosceptic member of Sir James Goldsmith's L'Autre Europe grouping in the Parliament, threatened to initiate legal action, adding: "The documents demonstrate the desire of the commission to prevent at any cost the public being informed of the dangers of BSE." The commission's chief spokesman, Klaus Van der Pas, said it would make all documents available to a committee of MEPs who today begin an investigation into the handling of the BSE crisis. Asked whether Mr Legras still had the confidence of Jacques Santer, the EC president, he replied: "At the moment I have no reason to say anything else but yes."

Schools 'breaking law on informing parents'

John Carvel Education Editor
MOST schools are flouting their legal obligation to give parents the basic information they need to make important decisions about their children's education, the Consumers' Association warned yesterday after a survey of prospectuses and governors' annual reports. From a representative sample of 80 primary and secondary schools, only one gave all the information stipulated in the Government's parents' charter. "A staggering 130 of the 141 documents received did not meet the legal requirements," the association said.

According to the report, common omissions from governors' reports included: exam results; national curriculum test assessments; absence rates; school leaver destinations; who the governors were and when they met; how much they claimed in expenses; and when the next annual meeting and elections for parent governors would be held. About a quarter of the secondary schools in the sample failed to mention anything about the cost of field trips, music lessons and other extras pupils might want. Almost half of them did not include all the information they were required to give on admissions. Other schools failed to explain how parents could visit the school, and did not provide information on sex education, collective worship or any provision for children with special educational needs. "Our findings are extremely disappointing," said Phillip Cullum, the association's policy manager. "Non-compliance is widespread. Parents simply are not being given enough information to help them choose their child's school and to hold the school's governors to some account."

"The best schools managed to sound welcoming, but the worst almost implied that parents were an unavoidable inconvenience." However, blaming individual schools was not enough, Mr Cullum said. "Local education authorities should take responsibility for keeping tabs on whether prospectuses and governors' annual reports comply with legal requirements." The survey was conducted earlier this year by Consumers' Association researchers, posing as parents. Other problems revealed by the report included illegible typefaces, jargon and legalistic language. The Consumers' Association survey included examples of good and bad governors' reports. One unimpressive example read: "We are required to provide a written report which is attached to this letter. Some aspects of the report are a mandatory requirement." One more acceptable report, however, read: "We look forward to seeing as many parents as possible at the meeting, and hearing their thoughts about the school. We value the opinions of parents very highly."

EST ZOOM COMPACT.
need a **PENTAX**

Monks urges £4 basic pay target

Larry Elliott and Seamus Milne
THE TUC leadership has laid night trying to defuse an impending row over the minimum wage ahead of next week's conference by promising that its opening bid for low paid workers under a Labour government would be for a national floor of 24 an hour. Fearful of a Conservative campaign over the costs of the 24p minimum proposed by the public sector union Unison, TUC general secretary John Monks is seeking a compromise in Blackpool that would satisfy the left without embarrassing Labour. Mr Monks will tell Thursday's meeting of the TUC general council that the unions should be aiming for 24 an hour if the low pay commission promised by Labour is set up after the election. The final figure would be arrived at only after representations by the CBI — which would be proposing a figure closer to 23 — and from academics. However, Mr Monks will press for the TUC not to lock itself into a fixed negotiating stance up to 18 months before a minimum wage could appear on the statute book. Frantic efforts are being

made to ensure that the Union motion is defeated if it reaches the congress floor. A minimum wage of 24.26 an hour would affect 28 per cent of the working population, and the TUC leadership believes the Government would respond to such a claim with a concerted campaign in which ministers would assert that any benefits would be outweighed by hundreds of thousands of job losses and the inflationary impact of attempts to restore wage differentials. Mr Monks argues that the minimum wage is a popular policy and will help Labour's electoral chances by offering a solution to job insecurity. However, in private he is arguing that a vote for 24.26 an hour could undermine public support for the concept. "The Communication Workers' Union strike committee will meet tomorrow to thrash out its next moves in the postal dispute after yesterday's 24-hour strike shut down the service for the eighth time since June. Royal Mail last night again claimed that support for the union was crumbling, although its own figures showed more than 100,000 were on strike. Union future is in mutual satisfaction, page 9

What on earth do you think you're up to talking to that evil screw from Brixton Prison? You're meant to be glad to have seen the back of people like that? It was a fact Neil Kinnock looked remarkably like a Brixton screw...

Howard Marks, G2 cover story

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
NATIONAL STATE
MINISTRY OF THE
INTERIOR
(Ministerio del Interior)
Public, National and International Bid
No 01/96
Full, indivisible contract of a service for the design, start up and support of a System of Migration Control and Identification of Individuals and of electoral information.
Interested parties may ask for information and purchase bid specifications of Subsecretaría de Población (Under Secretariat of Population) of the Ministry of Interior, at Avenida Leandro N. Alem 168 - 5º Piso - Capital Federal, from Monday to Friday from 12:00 noon to 4:00 AM as of the 30th day of August of the year 1996.
Value of the Bid Specifications: eighty thousand pesos (\$80.000).
Bids shall be received at the Subsecretaría de Población of the Ministry of the Interior, located at Avenida Leandro N. Alem 168 - 5º Piso - Capital Federal, until 12:00 noon of the 25th day of October of the year 1996.
The opening of bids shall be carried out the same day at 1:00 PM at the Subsecretaría de Población of the Ministry of the Interior.

John Carvel

4 BRITAIN

News in brief

Missing boy found drowned on beach

POLICE last night said the body of a boy found drowned on a beach at Sheringham, north Norfolk, on Sunday had been formally identified as that of four-year-old Tom Loughlin, who vanished from a beach 30 miles away with his six-year-old sister, Jodi, two weeks ago.

Jodi's body was found on a beach between Sheringham and nearby Weybourne last week, and tests showed she drowned. The two children were last seen running excitedly toward the beach at Holme, near Hunstanton, Norfolk, on Sunday, August 18, a day after beginning their holiday. Neither could swim. Their parents, Kevin Loughlin and Lynette Thornton, both 37 and from Norwood, south London, have remained in Norfolk since the tragedy.

Mr Loughlin, a computer consultant, and Ms Thornton, a physiotherapist, said they had only taken their eyes off the children for five minutes, and could not believe they had drowned in such short a time when the sea was so calm. A massive land and sea search had failed to find any trace of the children.

Six-death road crash plea

WITNESSES are being urgently sought by police who are baffled over the cause of a road accident near Frome in Somerset early on Sunday morning in which six young people died returning from the nearby One World pop festival.

Avon and Somerset police are hoping roadside witnesses, possibly including people leaving the festival, might help solve the mystery of why the youngsters' car crossed the single carriageway into the path of an oncoming van before hitting two 18-year-old men walking on the grass verge — one of whom was last night still in a critical condition in hospital. His companion, and a man and woman in the van, were also detained in hospital with minor injuries.

Among the dead were two grandchildren of first world war poet Siegfried Sassoon — Tom Sassoon, 18, and his sister Isobel, 20, from Frome. The other victims were Isobel's boyfriend Stephen Stokes, 22, and Melanie France, 21, both from Frome, and Christopher Ashton, 19, and Charles Weale, 31, from Salisbury. An inquest into their deaths will be opened at Wells on Thursday.



ACTOR Liam Neeson (left) had emergency surgery yesterday after falling ill at the Venice Film Festival. Neeson, aged 42, star of the film Michael Collins, premiered on Saturday, was in hospital in Padua with an intestinal complaint. Warner Brothers said he had been feeling unwell for some time. Neeson, who appeared in Schindler's List and Rob Roy, was expected to make a complete recovery, the spokesman said. He had wanted to be at the premiere as a matter of principle, which might have explained why he left the US while feeling unwell.

Doctor jailed for pistol threat

A DOCTOR who held a starting pistol to the throat of a car passenger in a road rage row was jailed for three months yesterday at Harrow crown court in north-west London.

Hospital registrar Chide Uche, aged 38, of Willesden Green, north-west London, had been found guilty last month of possessing an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear or violence. The court had been told that Uche jumped out of his BMW when a car blocked his way in a Cricklewood car park last December, and threatened Michael McNamara with an Olympic 6 starting pistol he had bought for his nephew.

Passing sentence, Recorder Harvendra De Silva QC said he took into account that Uche may have been "aggravated" as Mr McNamara approached him swearing and shouting. The judge also said he had felt able to reduce the sentence because he did not believe there was any chance of Uche reoffending. In Uche's defence, the court had been told the incident was a tragedy for the career of a respected doctor.



Taking off at last... A prototype of the Eurofighter making its first UK public flight at the Farnborough Air Show yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH: GRAHAM TURRIS

Portillo backs Eurofighter

£15 billion boost for industry and RAF depends on go-ahead from key partner Germany

Sarah Boseley and Michael White

THE Defence Secretary, Michael Portillo, yesterday declared that the UK was ready to commit itself to the production of the £40-billion Eurofighter aircraft, giving a boost to industry and jobs and a firm nudge to Germany, which is dragging its feet.

In a statement to coincide with the Farnborough Air Show, where a prototype of the costly and much delayed front-line combat aircraft

shire, Derby and Bristol, which stand to gain or keep jobs, and the German government.

There has been a long history of German doubts and near-withdrawals because of the escalating cost. After the Berlin Wall came down, Germany exchanged military insecurity for financial liabilities.

The German treasury is under even more pressure now as it tries to meet the Maastricht single-currency timetable. The government has said it will not decide whether to commit money to production of the Eurofighter until next year.

Agreement on the numbers each would buy and the distribution of production work was reached with Germany and the other partners, Italy and Spain, at the beginning of the year, however, and it is thought none of the four nations will want to lose their hefty investment in the aircraft's development.

But for all its up-beat, go-getting tone, yesterday's statement was qualified, because Britain cannot proceed without the partners.

Production will not start until all the signatures are on paper.

Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, who played a key role in the '80s in persuading the European governments to work together, said the announcement gave him "enormous personal pleasure". But Britain had to learn from the United States and root out "uncompetitive structures and practices" if it

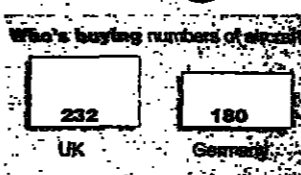
Comrades in arms

European development work share

Country	Company	Seawing costs
1 UK	BAC	1992 estimate: £400m
2 Spain	IAS	1992 estimate: £220m
3 Spain/UK	SAAB	
5 Italy	FIAT	

Who's buying numbers of aircraft

UK	232
Germany	180
	57
	121



Countdown

1980: Initial proposal for a European Fighter Aircraft.

1985: France drops out after wrangles over type of aircraft to build, leaving Britain, Germany, Italy and Spain to go it alone.

May 1988: The four partners sign an agreement to order prototypes. Project is costed at £22 billion, with the UK share £7 billion. Aircraft expected to be in service in 1995.

1990: Germans consider withdrawing over cost of German unification, which removed main security problem.

1992: Germany pulls out of development phase, followed by Italy. Cabinet splits emerge and Michael Portillo to the Treasury tries to get MoD to abandon project.

December 1992: Project rescued when four partner nations agree to cut costs to keep Germans in. Aircraft renamed Eurofighter.

October 1993: Concern about aircraft's computer system delays inaugural flight.

March 1994: Plane takes off for first time — in Germany.

August 1995: National Audit Office critical of international work-sharing arrangements, blaming them for 28 per cent increase in development costs since 1988 — an increase of £2.2 billion to Britain.

November 1995: Defence Secretary Michael Portillo said to be considering buying US-made Stealth bomber instead. UK and Germany reach outline deal on sharing production work.

was to take advantage of global opportunities.

The Government had pumped £1.2 billion into the aerospace industry since 1979 — far more than it put into any other manufacturing industry. "This is an industry of central importance to the British Government and one which we are right to support. This is a world industry in which giant companies compete ruthlessly with each other. International collaboration is essential."

The National Audit Office has criticised the cumbersome management of the project, spread across four nations, which it said was responsible for a large part of the inflated cost.

Labour and the Liberal Democrats welcomed the production go-ahead yesterday, but there are still some Tories who believe the Eurofighter is a doomed and costly attempt to compete with the United States — and that cash-conscious Germany would be doing everyone a favour by pulling the plug on it.

European challenge to US supremacy, page 12

Traveller finds her field of dreams

Alex Bellis

SHE could not believe her luck. Cannabis plants as far as the eye could see. So she parked her truck and made the place her home.

Only this was not in the Golden Triangle or Morocco. The 18-year-old traveller had found paradise in a hidden corner of Oxfordshire.

"She must have thought she was in seventh heaven. It is every hippy's dream come true. If it wasn't such a serious matter it would be hysterical," muttered the Old Bill when they discovered that the county's best kept secret was not so secret after all.

It appeared that the teenager had been living in the Home Office-licensed hemp farm for several weeks. There was a fire, food cans lying around, and cannabis leaves drying in the sun.

Acting on a tip-off, the police had visited the farm. "We just drove down a track, turned in through an open gate and were smack bang in the middle of a massive dope plantation," said one officer.

"There were 12 ft cannabis plants everywhere. It looked more like Colombia than Oxfordshire. I have

never seen anything like it. Then we spotted this dilapidated old coach parked in some trees in the middle of it all and some of the crop drying out in the sunshine."

The 11.6 acre plantation is one of a small number in England. Their locations are secret and farmers have to conform to strict rules, sometimes including growing wheat round the outside to disguise the cannabis plants.

Only the stalks are processed, for use in making rope, paper and hessian. The leaves and flowering heads are destroyed. The farmer must keep gates to

the fields shut and padlocked, and maintain detailed records of when the crops were picked.

But police said that this time security was non-existent. "We have spoken to the farmer and asked the Home Office to review the licence in the light of our findings. If they consider the case is serious enough they could withdraw their permission and revoke the licence."

When the police arrived the girl was not there. A warrant has been issued for her arrest under the Misuse of Drugs Act.

The Home Office did not comment.

Teenage TV addicts prone to isolation, crime and drugs

Stuart Miller

TEENAGERS who watch more than four hours television a night are more prone to crime, drug-taking and becoming isolated from society, academics said yesterday.

The warning followed publication of research which found that TV addicts — those watching at least four hours a night — are more likely to have anti-social attitudes, become isolated from parents and feel disillusioned.

The researchers, from Trinity College, Carmarthen, said these youngsters developed spectator mentalities which prevented them from taking an active part in life.

Of 20,000 teenagers aged between 13 and 15 surveyed at

schools in England and Wales, more than a quarter said they watched at least four hours a night. After comparing their attitudes with those of the other respondents, the researchers said their findings painted a disturbing picture of isolation and disenchantment.

Almost 50 per cent of the addict group dismissed school as boring, compared to fewer than 30 per cent of those who watched less TV. TV addicts were also happier to accept they might be unemployed after school, and more than 20 per cent would prefer it to work they did not like. More than one in 10 condoned shoplifting, compared with only one in 20 other teenagers, while one in five viewed graffiti as acceptable.

TV addicts were also more tolerant of drugs. Fewer than 50 per cent thought using cannabis was wrong; more than 25 per cent approved of glue sniffing and 30 per cent thought heroin use and sniffing butane acceptable.

William Kay, one of the report's authors, said schools

should pay more attention to teaching youngsters to be become discriminating viewers. "If you eat junk food continually it will have a long-term effect on your health, and TV is the same. So if kids learn about TV and what is junk, they will be able to develop a more balanced diet."



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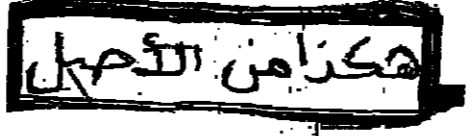
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Nick Varley on one woman's three-year ordeal

End stalker terror, pleads victim

'There is absolutely no justice in putting a victim through so much that they become damaged psychologically before a charge can be brought'

A WOMAN who won a test case against a stalker who subjected her to a campaign of terror lasting more than three years, publicly relived her ordeal for the first time yesterday. Tracy Sant saw a former work colleague, Anthony Burstow, jailed for three years earlier this year, after he became the first stalker to be convicted of grievous bodily harm.

Mrs Sant's account came at the International Police Training Conference in Birmingham where one of the UK's most senior women police officers called for the proposed laws on stalking to be made more stringent. Maria Wallis, Assistant Chief Constable of Sussex, said the persistent use of words or behaviour that harassed, alarmed or distressed victims should be made an arrestable offence. The conference heard it

they worked in Hampshire in November, 1992. She tried to help him overcome depression. Within a month, however, he began to appear when she went to aerobics or evening classes. By the end of the month she was terrified and was taking sleeping pills. She described how mail began going missing, messages were found on her answering machine and how she found an item of her underwear from her bedroom drawer draped over the wing mirror of her car. There were silent phone calls, unsigned mail and oil was poured over the car. Members of her family and her husband's family also began to be harassed. Burstow was jailed for six months for pouring the oil on the car but was released on appeal while Mrs Sant and her husband were on their way. They returned to find their home had been broken into and personal items, including their wedding video, had been stolen. Burstow was jailed for 18 months for the break-in, but continued to send mail and make phone calls from prison. While he was behind bars, however, the most dis-

turbing evidence of his obsession was discovered: he had bugged Mrs Sant's sofa, bed and office. On his release, Burstow started where he had left off. The pressure told on Mrs Sant's marriage and her husband left. They are divorcing this month. She moved to her parents' home, but the calls and letters continued. Police, unable to find evidence to prosecute Burstow, were helpless. Ten months later, after police compiled a dossier to press the pioneering charge of grievous bodily harm, Burstow pleaded guilty and was jailed. Miss Wallis, a member of the Association of Chief Police Officers working party dealing with stalking, said she was "broadly in favour" of the proposals, as were many police forces. Research findings from police forces throughout the country showed in the 155 stalking cases reported, that 144 victims were female, 10 were male and one was a family. In a third of the cases there was a domestic or other relationship between victim and stalker. Thirty-four were linked through work, 40 casually linked and 32 unknown.



Tracy Sant... relived ordeal during which her sofa, bed and office were bugged by obsessive stalker PHOTOGRAPH: STEVE HILL

More women officers the answer to cult of masculinity in police stations, says ex-superintendent

SUPPRESSING sexism among policemen merely forces such attitudes and language underground, a former superintendent said yesterday. Malcolm Young, now a lecturer in anthropology, said officers imbued "with

the cult of masculinity" would find new venues for their outlook if it was no longer tolerated in police stations. He argued the correct strategy was to make forces more equal in terms of the proportions of men and women officers.

If suppressed, the masculinity cult became localised, covert, and more intense, and surfaced in "CID pubs or wherever". Dr Young told the police training conference. "We've got a culture in the police which is 170 years old. But for 140 years it was exclusively male-run and male-dominated. You can't change a culture in 30 years, especially one so male-orientated. Phrases describing

women officers as "rough as a robber's dog" remained prevalent. Men used such language when they felt under threat, he said, and male officers faced by women colleagues often resorted to it. Dr Young, a policeman for 33 years, said the answer to sexist attitudes was to recruit more women. "It needs to be the norm that forces are 50-50, give or take 10 per cent either way."

New moves in rows over pupils

CHILDREN return today to the Nottinghamshire school at which teachers have threatened to strike if they are forced to teach a boy aged 10. At an emergency meeting last night, governors of Manton junior school, Worksop, discussed compromise proposals for Matthew Wilson to be taught in isolation by a supply teacher. He was twice expelled by the head teacher but reinstated by governors. He is not due to attend the school until Monday. Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers, said a settlement would depend on the details of any proposal. Yesterday he talked to Fred Riddell, chairman of the county's education committee.



Sarah Taylor... parents withdrew her from school

"bright but challenging" boy. Meanwhile, a strike by NASUW members at the Riding School in Halifax, West Yorkshire, was called off when the parents of Sarah Taylor, aged 13, withdrew her from school. It was the latest in a series of confrontations in which the union has forced the withdrawal of disruptive children from classes. Sarah was expelled last term for alleged violence against a teacher and pupil. After an appeal to the local education authority, she was allowed to return for the new term yesterday. Teachers voted to strike if they were asked to teach her, and it was decided that she would receive tuition from the head teacher, Jacqueline Taylor and her husband, Michael, were unhappy with the arrangement and decided to withdraw their daughter. Mr de Gruchy said there was a feeling of relief among

his members. "They should be congratulated on taking a firm stand in defence of law and order." Sarah's family say they will take legal advice about an alleged attack on Sarah by a teacher. Mr de Gruchy denied that she had been attacked. The decision by all 15 comprehensives in the London borough of Bromley to select 15 per cent of their pupils would be repeated by schools in other areas, Sir Robert Balchin, chairman of the Grant Maintained Schools Foundation, said yesterday. The decision marks a breakthrough for the Government in its policy of dismantling comprehensive education. Until now, only 41 grant-maintained schools had applied to introduce some selection. Parents in Bromley fear that selection tests will draw in hundreds of pupils from other authorities and squeeze out the borough's children.

Loyalist bomb attack 'meant to kill'

THE parents of Alex Kerr, one of two men ordered to leave Northern Ireland or face death by the loyalist paramilitary leadership, said yesterday that a bomb attack on their home was intended to kill. Pressure was also mounting yesterday for fringe loyalist parties to be excluded from next week's Stormont talks following the attack and the issuing of the ultimatum last week to Mr Kerr and leading loyalist Billy Wright to quit Northern Ireland. Mr Kerr's father, also called Alex, who was 60 on Sunday when a bomb was thrown through the window of his south Belfast home, said: "I don't think they came to scare us away. They came to put us away. I'm an easy target. When they issued the ultimatum to my son I was expecting



Alex Kerr, whose son faces a loyalist death threat

province or face death. Mr Kerr, who is on remand facing terrorist charges, has been ordered to leave the province upon release. The refusal of both men to leave, however, and Mr Wright's public criticisms of fringe loyalist groups has sparked fears of a bloody feud within their ranks. David Ervine, spokesman for the fringe Progressive Unionist Party (PUP), which is representing the interests of the paramilitary Ulster Volunteer Force at the Stormont talks, due to resume next week, denied that Sunday night's attack was carried out on the orders of the CLMC. "People should look at the other parties involved and see who this attack benefits and it's not the CLMC." However, Mr Ervine refused to condemn the ultimatum, which have split loyalist ranks and could lead to retaliation if the threats to

kill them are carried out. Mr Ervine also dismissed calls from the Rev Ian Paisley for fringe loyalist groups to be barred from the Stormont talks unless they condemn the CLMC "directive". Mr Paisley said all those participating needed to adhere to the Mitchell Principles "otherwise there will be no place for them at the table". Mo Mowlam, the shadow Northern Ireland secretary, said in an interview with a Belfast newspaper that all loyalist parties needed to be involved in the Stormont talks but condemned the CLMC's ultimatum. Meanwhile, in a further sign of deteriorating relations, Protestant and Catholic mobs clashed in north Belfast last night. Police said the skirmishes followed sectarian rioting on Sunday when mobs fought with hammers and crowbars and threw bricks.

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The Guardian

The Mandelson Oscar thrilled Glenda as little as one might expect, given that her acting career produced two genuine ones (now stored in her sister's backroom cupboard in Merseyside). "But I was actually quite glad of a breath of sea air after being ill. It was a good day out."

Mary Ridell

See page 12

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News in brief

Iranian ship 'taking arms to Libya'

AN IRANIAN ship carrying arms and explosives in contravention of United Nations sanctions is expected to arrive in Libya in the next few days, shipping sources and Arab diplomats said yesterday. Official Libyan or Iranian comment was not available.

The arms embargo was imposed for Libya's failure to hand over two men suspected of the Lockerbie bombing. Shipping sources said the ship, the Iran Ershad, sailed around the Cape of Good Hope rather than take the normal route through the Suez Canal, thus avoiding inspection by Egyptian port authorities.

Sahrawis threaten force

AN INDIGENOUS group seeking independence for Western Sahara has vowed to take up arms against Morocco again if the troubled United Nations referendum does not take place, the Algerian daily Le Matin reported on Sunday.

If the vote on the territory's status is cancelled, "The Sahrawi people will resume combat until they acquire their national sovereignty", said Mohammed Abdelaziz, head of the Polisario Front. The threat came after the United Nations suspended voter registration and reduced its observer mission monitoring the five-year-old ceasefire.

Morocco and the Polisario fought for control of the territory, bordering southern Morocco, after Spain left in 1976. The UN has been trying to organise a referendum since 1991 but has been held up by arguments over who should vote. — AP, Algiers.

Second tragedy at US lake

A REMOTE South Carolina lake where a young mother drowned her two children in 1994 has taken the lives of seven more people. The victims had driven to John D. Long lake near Union to look at a memorial to the brothers Michael, aged three, and Alex, aged 14 months, who died when Susan Smith rolled her car into the water. The group parked their van on a boat ramp and five of the adults got out. But the vehicle, with one adult and four children inside, rolled into the lake. Angie Phillips, aged 29, mother of three of the children, and Carl White, aged 29, drowned trying to rescue them.

Mrs Phillips's husband, Tim, aged 26, was found at the wheel. The gear stick was in neutral position but police do not suspect foul play. The other victims were the Phillips' three children, aged between four months and four years, and a three-year-old boy. — Ian Katz, New York.

'Subversive' Suu Kyi accused

BURMA'S military junta has accused the opposition National League for Democracy, led by Aung San Suu Kyi, of working with "subversives" to try to exert pressure on the government. A military intelligence officer, Colonel Kyaw Thein, said yesterday that seized documents showed the exiled groups intended to work with the NLD "to commit... subversive acts both within and without the country." Among the examples cited against Ms Suu Kyi was her receipt last November from a group of Burmese exiles in India of a video of the film Beyond Rangoon, which depicts bloody military action to crush the democracy movement in 1988. — Nick Cumming-Bruce, Bangkok.



Four-year-old Tyler Bailey firmly clutches fleece in the Mutton Bustin' event at the Okeshoobee cattlemen's 45th Annual Labour Day Rodeo in Florida

Cautious peace in Philippines

MUSLIM rebels and the Philippine government formally signed a peace pact yesterday ending 24 years of war in the south. But Nur Misuari, the chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front, said after the ceremony at the presidential palace in Manila that more war would be inevitable if the pact failed to produce concrete benefits for the Muslims of the southern Philippines.

"Signing the agreement is one thing... the more crucial test, the real acid test, will be in the implementing phase," said the former university professor who led his rebels through a war with Christians which killed 125,000, most of them civilians. — Reuter, Manila.

Banda aides held in Malawi

POLICE in Malawi arrested the two closest associates of former president Kamuzu Banda yesterday on charges of attempted murder and conspiracy to murder, state-run radio reported.

John Tembo, who was Mr Banda's apparent heir as leader of the opposition Malawi Congress Party, and his long-time companion Cecilia Kadzamba were arrested on charges related to the shooting of an Asian shopkeeper, the radio said. A former police officer was also arrested. Two days ago police arrested another three suspects on the same charges.

Last year Mr Banda stood trial with Mr Tembo and Ms Kadzamba, accused of ordering the assassination of four opponents in 1963. All were acquitted. — Reuter, Blantyre.

Paltrow had read Sense And Sensibility and Pride And Prejudice at her exclusive New York City girls' school, but professes to have been a much bigger Brontë fan.
Lesley O'Toole

G2 page 3

IRAQ CRISIS/Dole condemns 'novice' Clinton for ignoring Baghdad's warning signals

Gulf giant 'caught napping'

Martin Walker in Washington

AMERICAN forces in the Middle East are able to launch air and cruise missile strikes against Iraq without reinforcement. They could have mounted a spirited air campaign against Iraq's armoured brigades north of the 35th parallel. Their failure to do so is now the main target of Republican criticism of President Clinton's response to the crisis.

"What did the president know and when did he know it?" asked John Warner, an influential member of the Senate armed services committee. "Why were we asleep at the switch?"

"The time to stop these things is before they start," Mr Clinton's Republican rival, Bob Dole, added. Stressing the president's lack of military background, he said: "Leaving it too late, not paying attention — these are the hallmarks of the novice."

There is no shortage of United States power for Mr Clinton to deploy. There are two aircraft carriers within striking distance of Iraq — the Carl Vinson in the Gulf, with 79 warplanes, and the Enterprise in the eastern Mediterranean, also with 79 F-18 and F-14 fighter-bombers. The carrier task forces also have Tomahawk missiles, which cost \$1.1 million each, but are highly accurate and involve no risk to American life.

The US has another 120 warplanes in the region, half of them at the Saudi Arabian

Allied strength

The allies command a formidable array of military might in the Middle East. The US has 23,500 combat troops stationed permanently in the Gulf region. With its vast bases with pre-positioned equipment at al-Kharr, Dhahran, Bahrain, Qatar and Kuwait, the US could increase this number to over 100,000 within a week.

US
Six Tornado fighter-bombers stationed at Incirlik in Turkey. Another six at Dhahran. All equipped with anti-tank weapons, laser-guided bombs and anti-radar weapons. In all there are 70 allied aircraft at Incirlik.

UK
Two aircraft carrier groups are in the area. USS Carl Vinson in the Gulf USS Enterprise in the eastern Mediterranean. Both are armed with Tomahawk cruise missiles. Total ships: 20.

France
Five Jaguars based at Incirlik. One refueling tanker, some 180 personnel.

Other forces
Each carrier has 79 strike aircraft on board, mainly F-18s and F-14s. In addition the US has some 120 warplanes permanently in the region, mainly at al-Kharr and Dhahran (80) and Incirlik and Azrak (60).

Marine amphibious assault group on the carrier groups. Tanks and armour in Kuwait.

bases of al-Kharr and Dhahran, and the rest Incirlik in Turkey and Azrak in Jordan. The vast Saudi airbases are the key to the entire deployment. They host the E-3 airborne warning and control aircraft (Awards) which watch the whole Middle East and are linked to computers in US intelligence centres at Dhahran and Bahrain. The Saudi bases also house the U-2 spy planes, the squadron of F-117 "stealth" fighter bombers, and the KG-135 airborne tankers, without which the rest of the force would not have the range to command the air throughout the region.

With the US Fifth Fleet base at Bahrain, the cargo ships of military supplies at Diego Garcia, and equipment for US armoured brigades in both Kuwait and Qatar, the Gulf is a US military protectorate.

British jets on alert

Richard Norton-Taylor

BRITISH forces in the Middle East consist of 12 Tornado GR-1 fighter-bombers. Six are based at Incirlik in southern Turkey as part of the 70 United States, British and French force patrolling the northern Iraq "no-fly zone", established after the Gulf war to protect Kurds.

Six Tornados based in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, patrol the "no-fly zone" protecting the predominantly Shi'a population in southern Iraq.

The Tornados at Incirlik are equipped with laser-guided bombs, anti-armour cluster bombs and JP-233 bombs, designed to attack airfields.

Two British destroyers — HMS Exeter and HMS York — patrol the Gulf armed with Sea Dart missiles and torpedoes, and equipped with Lynx helicopters.

The Ministry of Defence said yesterday that allied aircraft were continuing to patrol northern Iraq.

The current 23,500 American military personnel in the Gulf could be expanded to 100,000, equipped with heavy artillery and tanks, within a week.

The 23,500 troops comprise 15,000 sailors and marines, 4,000 airmen, 2,000 engineers

and logistics troops, and 2,000 army personnel who are regularly rotated in the region for training.

The extent of US power has led the Republicans to condemn Mr Clinton for misjudging the early warnings of Iraqi troop movements towards the 36th parallel.

"For the last few weeks the threat of Iraqi intervention in the north has been building, yet the administration has delegated the problem to low-level officials, hoping that its verbal warnings would suffice," Mr Dole said. "It should be no surprise that the Iraqis have ignored those barely audible warnings."

But US intelligence sources said yesterday that Iraq had moved the bulk of its forces at night, and had shown great skill in using camouflage during the limited (and predictable) 150-minute spans of satellite surveillance.

The national security council was told last Wednesday that limited troops movements were under way, which looked like routine rotation of Iraqi forces near the Kurdish-held region.

As late as Friday US intelligence was reporting no more than 10,000 troops on the move, and had upgraded its expectations to "a show of force" rather than the armoured assault by three divisions that occurred.

Iraq used nightly shuttles of helicopters to bring in the lead infantry and the combat engineers who cleared the mines and strengthened bridges for the tank advance.

Leader comment, page 8

Blurred lines in new order

John Gittings

IF THE United States and its allies take action against Iraq, they will seek to invoke a ground-breaking United Nations resolution passed in 1991.

Resolution 688 condemned "the repression of the Iraqi civilian population", particularly in Kurdish areas, and called on Iraq to "immediately end repression".

It was first time the UN Security Council had intervened strongly on a human rights issue, ignoring the traditional view that this would mean interfering with a country's internal affairs.

The resolution does not let UN members act to enforce it. As the UN "Blue Book" on relations with Iraq notes, it was "not adopted under Chapter 7 of the Charter" (which allows the Security Council to take action "with respect to threats to the peace").

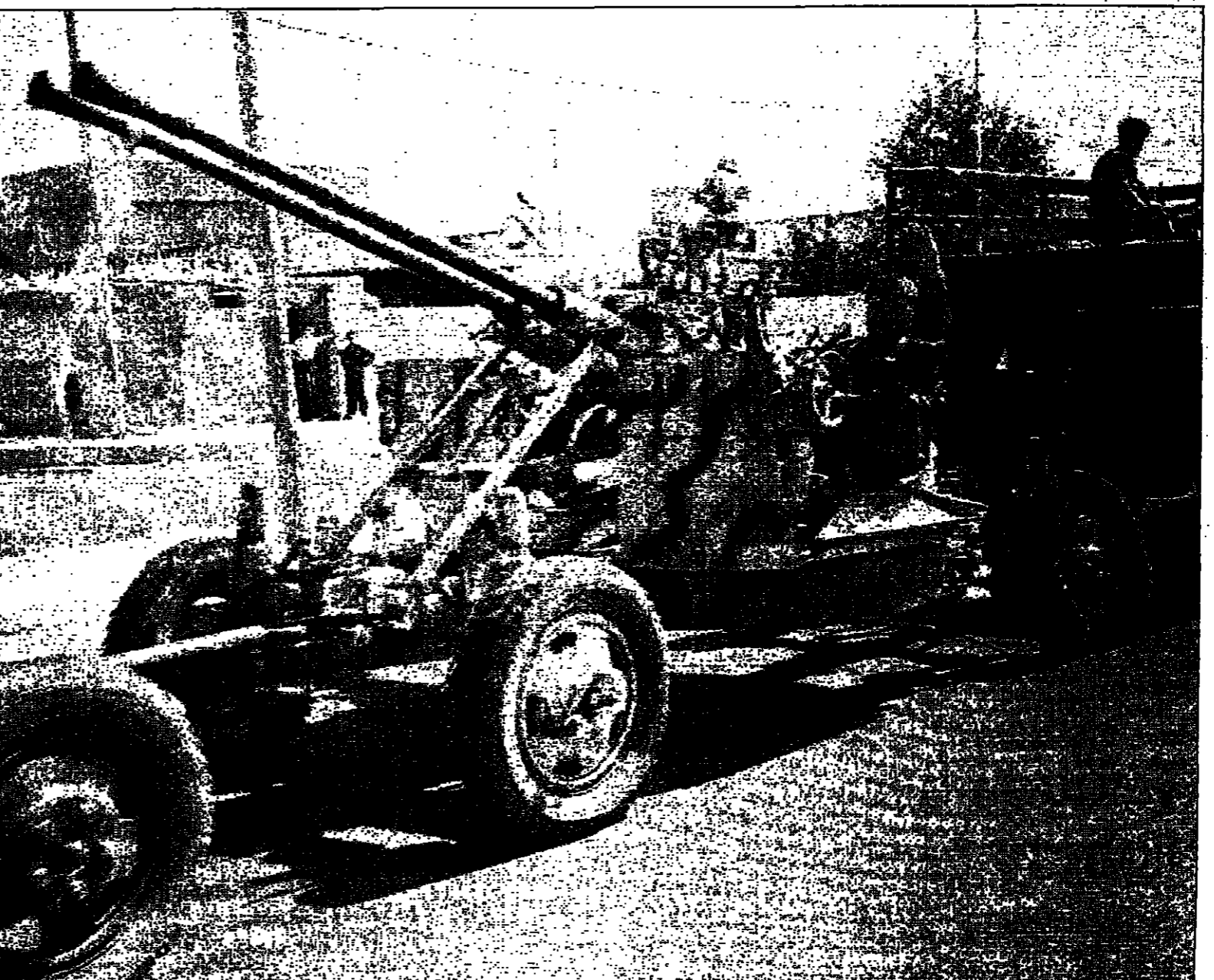
Russia and China felt the resolution threatened to undermine the principle of sovereignty. They agreed to support it only after the insertion of a clause referring to an earlier part of the Charter — Article 2, Paragraph 7.

This says that the UN may not intervene in matters which are "essentially the jurisdiction of any state" — unless Chapter 7 applies.

If the US takes action against Iraq, it can only invoke Resolution 688 as having some ill-defined moral force. Iraq will argue that US intervention contravenes a key provision of the Charter.

The passing of Resolution 688 led Britain and the US to create two "no-fly" or "exclusion" zones in Iraq, which they said were needed to enforce and monitor compliance with the resolution.

The Blue Book notes, without endorsing, the coalition



A fighter from the Kurdish Democratic Party enters Salahuddin yesterday with artillery taken from the rival Patriotic Union of Kurdistan after Saturday's capture of Irbil. The KDP seized Irbil, the seat of the Kurdish government, with the backing of Iraqi troops

countries' claim that the ceasefire agreement which ended the Gulf war empowered them to impose such controls on Iraqi military flights.

The UN also registers Iraq's objection. Baghdad says the zones were not adopted on the basis of any UN resolution and that their aim is to interfere in Iraq's internal affairs.

In October 1994, when Iraq massed troops near the Kuwait border, the Security Council (in Resolution 949) threatened enforcement action under Chapter 7. This had nothing to do with the no-fly zone: it stemmed from earlier resolutions, passed after the Gulf war, which lay down terms for the ceasefire.

The many UN resolutions on Iraq fall into three bundles. First, those flowing from the ceasefire. This established UN commissions to supervise the elimination of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and police the Iraq-Kuwait frontier.

Second, those covering the terms on which UN sanctions may be lifted to let Iraq sell oil and buy food and medicine.

Third, arrangements for UN relief agencies, based on memorandums of understanding with Baghdad.

Resolution 688 stands alone, dipping its toe in the unexplored territory of international law. Some observers say that recent events in Bosnia, Somalia and elsewhere have blurred the line of national sovereignty which the UN did not previously cross.

Others argue that this is a dangerous course: it would allow any member state — particularly the big powers — to interfere in another country's internal affairs.

Iran has deployed a differ-

ent argument to justify its military support for the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan — one of two warring Kurdish factions in northern Iraq.

Tehran argues that Baghdad's inability to exercise "effective control" over the north entitles Iran to respond to saboteurs launched against it from Kurdish Iraq.

Additional research: United Nations Association-UK.

Collapse of opposition unity dismays wary exiles

Inter-Kurdish fighting has demolished the rickety structure of the anti-Saddam Iraqi National Congress, writes Ian Black

EXCITED Arabic conversations bubbled out of every room in the plush London offices of the Iraqi National Congress yesterday but there was little good news from Kurdistan and no optimism about putting Saddam Hussein back in his box.

According to phone and fax messages from the autonomous areas, Iraqi mahabarat secret police rounded up officials of the opposition INC after the Kurdish Democratic Party shattered the myth of unity by teaming up with Baghdad against the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan.

Only one message brought smiles to the gloomy faces of Saddam's exiled enemies: Hero Talabani, the wife of the PDK leader, had managed to escape into friendly territory in Sulaymaniyah.

"It's astonishing that the KDP would trust Baghdad," one official said. "But now we have a major political and humanitarian crisis on our hands and we are being very restrained in what we say."

"There has been a serious shift of alliance from the INC to the government," admitted Ahmed Chalabi, the sharp-tongued former banker who has headed the

umbrella organisation since it was set up in 1992. President Saddam's manoeuvre has demolished the rickety structure of the INC: Massoud Barzani, the KDP leader, was the Kurdish representative on the INC's three-member presidential council. The KDP seats in the National Assembly and the executive council are now vacant too.

Looking back over the last year, there now seems a grim inevitability about this disintegration. Opposition leaders admit their weaknesses but say the United States and Britain could and should have done much

more to help maintain the autonomous zone.

Ironically, US diplomats and INC officials met in London last Friday to fix monitoring arrangements for the intra-Kurdish ceasefire, as news came in that President Saddam's tanks were heading north.

"Points of disagreement were very limited but nothing happened," said Mr Chalabi. "All this would have been avoided if the issue had been treated with more seriousness."

"But I don't blame the Americans. I blame the Kurds for fighting. I blame the Iraqis for having Saddam. After all, it's our country, not their country. But we needed help and the help was not really forthcoming at the level that

was required. We are Iraqis and we have to deal with our own problems."

Yet the INC does want Western action: extend the northern no-fly zone to the whole of Iraq, restrict the movement of armoured units to around Baghdad — and, it is hoped, encourage army officers to rise up against President Saddam.

And, the INC says, the United Nations should create a commission to decide whether President Saddam is guilty of war crimes.

The INC displayed a grim calmness yesterday that contrasted with statements about KDP "treachery" emanating from the INC's British supporters.

The KDP and the PUK have both worked with Baghdad when it seemed

Hungary...
oppression...
force...
over...
Refugee...
nightmare...
Alan Berger

مکانهای تحقیق

Cairo seeks action from Netanyahu

Derek Brown in Jerusalem

THE PLO leader, Yasser Arafat, said last night he was considering seeking international arbitration to resolve his steadily worsening differences with Israel. The suggestion was instantly rebuffed by a spokesman for the Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu.

Earlier in the day frenetic contacts between Israel and the Palestinians failed to set a date for a meeting of the two leaders. But in a mood of deepening crisis, pressure is mounting inexorably on Israel to make concessions and prevent the unravelling of the 1993 peace accord.

The two men are still expected to meet this week — possibly today — even though their negotiators remain sharply divided on how to repair the badly faltering peace process among the crucial outstanding issues are:

- The timing and extent of Israel's withdrawal of occupation forces from the flash-point West Bank city of Hebron. The pull-back should have been completed in March but was delayed, first by a wave of Islamist suicide bombings in Israel and then by the election of the Netanyahu government.
- Israel's renewed drive to expand Jewish settlements in the occupied territories. Palestinians say that the expansion plans are in blatant violation of the peace accord; Israel claims the issue remains to be discussed.
- The firmly promised release of all remaining Palestinian women prisoners — about 25 in all — which was vetoed last year by the Israeli president, Ezer Weizman.
- The lifting of Israel's partial ban on the entry of tens of thousands of Palestinian workers. The so-called border closure has crippled the finances of the self-rule Palestinian Authority.

In a surprise intervention yesterday, Egypt warned Israel that it had just three weeks to implement existing agreements with the Palestinians. If it did not comply, Cairo would cancel a key Middle East economic conference, scheduled for November. The stark ultimatum angered Israeli officials. Mr Netanyahu's office said it was "an unfortunate threat which can only exacerbate tensions in the region".

"We don't want promises. We need actions," the long-serving Egyptian ambassador to Israel, Mohammed Bassiouny, said in support of the Palestinian demands.

Egypt is unlikely to wring such wide-ranging concessions from the hardline government of Mr Netanyahu. But Israeli negotiators are said to be moving towards compromise on some issues, including a significant relaxation of the restrictions on Palestinian workers — and the long-awaited first meeting of the two leaders.

For the last three weeks top Israeli and Palestinian have conducted discreet talks at

Negotiators remain divided on how to repair the peace process

the Tel Aviv home of Terje Larsen, the United Nations co-ordinator in the occupied territories.

Mr Larsen was a leading player in the secret negotiations which brought about the Israel-PLO peace accord in Oslo in 1993. Now he has resumed his intermediary role as relations between the "peace partners" have gravely deteriorated.

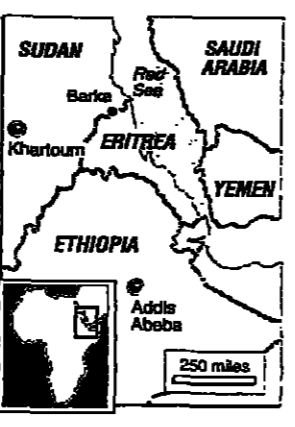
The new round of hush-hush diplomacy has produced contradictory signals. According to some reports, the Israelis offered cautious concessions, including an additional 10,000 entry permits for Palestinians. The PLO, the reports said, was prepared to renegotiate the terms of the ultra-sensitive Israeli redeployment in Hebron, where some 400 Jewish settlers live among 100,000 Palestinians.

Another, less sanguine, version of the talks is that Mr Arafat and his aides are determined to hold Israel to every word of the commitments made by the last government.



Above, food distribution in the Barka area and, right, Mustapha Issa Omer displays his stump, the result of a run-in with an army press gang. PHOTOGRAPHS: ANDREW BOYD

The people of eastern Sudan are trying to escape famine. But the flight takes them into dangerous land, and there's no guarantee of any food even if they do make it to Eritrea, writes **Andrew Boyd** in Barka



Hunger and oppression force Bejas over border

THE border between western Eritrea and north-eastern Sudan is marked by mountains as sharp as dragon's teeth. The track across is a roller-coaster truck ride over heaps of rubble. On the Eritrean side are sacks of sorghum; grain to make bread. On the Sudanese side is starvation.

"All of my people are starving," shrugs Mustapha Issa Omer. He used to be a shepherd. That was before he took two bullets while escaping a Sudanese army snatch squad, contracted gangrene and lost his leg. He has no truck to help him cross the border into Eritrea; he makes his way on crutches.

Mr Omer is one of around 3 million Beja people. He is in his thirties but looks younger, with dark doe eyes



which glance this way and that and avoid my gaze. He was picked up by a roving Sudanese army press gang to fight the war with the SPLA (Sudan People's Liberation Army) in the south.

When he tried to explain that he was a shepherd and not a soldier, that he had elderly parents, a wife and children to support, they threw him into a locked compound with their other new "conscripts". At 2am he found a gap in the wire and tried to slip through. The soldiers saw him and shot him in the arm and leg. He scrambled under a thorny shrub and spent the next day hiding there as the troops continued searching. At night he called out to a camel driver, who took him home.

By then his leg had turned

gangrenous and had to be amputated. His family were afraid to take a deserter to hospital, so they called on the services of a quack. "The operation cost my brother five camels," he said, clasping the stump.

Many who wearily cross the border tell of enforced conscription, of being denied food and medicine. One was thrown in jail for trying to buy sorghum.

The government of Sudan wants people to starve. There is a saying: if you have a dog, make him hungry so he will follow you," said Omer Musa, a refugee.

Others who try to sell their goods to buy grain are taxed so highly by the men with white beards — the Muslim Brothers — that they can afford to buy nothing.

But the Beja people are also Muslims. And they claim they are being driven out of their country by the radical Islamic regime in Khartoum.

They spill into Eritrea, some on camel and some on foot. Many have swords strapped to their backs with splayed ends and decorated with strips of red and blue metal.

Others wear combat fatigues and carry Kalashnikovs. These are the soldiers of the rebel Beja Congress who perform hit and run raids against bridges and other targets in Sudan. Some are as young as 12, but it is said they are still only being trained in the art of the Kalashnikov.

The leader of the congress, Imam Taha Ahmed Taha, was declared a non-Muslim after the coup which brought the

Rough justice for Rwanda's victims

Chris McGreal in Kigali reports on a law which means many killers will be freed after five years

EVEN some of those who agitated most vigorously for Rwanda's new genocide law wonder if they would not be better off without it.

People who survived the Hutu slaughter of hundreds of thousands of Tutsis in 1994 wanted the legislation to recognise the enormity of the crime by severely punishing all the killers. Instead they have a law many consider little better than an amnesty, and the dismaying prospect of their tormentors being freed while memories of the genocide are still fresh.

Critics fear the trials will be a show. Most of the judges have never heard a case before and most of the accused will not have defence lawyers.

The international tribunal for Rwanda — an appendage of the Bosnia war crimes trials — is expected to begin hearing its first three cases in Tanzania later this month. Meanwhile the Kigali government is coping with more than 80,000 alleged killers stuffed into its prisons.

Three weeks ago, after months of dispute and many revisions, parliament passed the controversial law under which punishment will be imposed according to the degree of responsibility and admitted guilt.

Those considered to have led the genocide — politicians, soldiers, even the clergy — face the death penalty, as do the most enthusiastic and pitiless killers.

But most of the murderers will serve prison terms. Some, if they plead guilty and testify against others, could be free in five years.

Gerard Cahima, the deputy justice minister, said the legislation recognised that because so many people were involved in the killing significant numbers had to be encouraged to plea bargain, to reduce pressure on a judicial system only just getting back on its feet after the war.

"This genocide touches us all. Before there can be reconciliation there must be trials," he said. "But we are not looking to put all these

Refugee's dream may be nightmare for Izetbegovic

A Serb extremist will benefit if Muslims return home to vote, Julian Borger in Sarajevo writes

IF ANYONE crosses Bosnia's ethnic dividing line to vote on September 14, it will be Enver Karic. A Muslim aged 48, expelled from Serb-controlled territory four years ago, he says no intimidation or practical hurdles will stop him returning to Bratunac, in eastern Bosnia.

"I was born there. Everything I owned is there — land, house, family graveyard. I will go back and I will vote there," he said.

About 400,000 Muslim refugees of voting age are in the same position as Mr Karic. Their consuming desire to return to their former homes in the 49 per cent of the country assigned to the Serbs by last year's Dayton peace pact is the only significant force holding Bosnia together.

If they abandon the idea, ethnic cleansing will have succeeded. But their determination to get home could also threaten to Bratunac, in eastern Bosnia.

In an election in which where you vote will be as important as who you vote for, most say they want to remain in their pre-war constituencies.

Nearly 140,000 have applied to vote by absentee ballot. Up to 250,000 others could pour across the ethnic boundary on election day for a symbolic return and the hope of a snatched

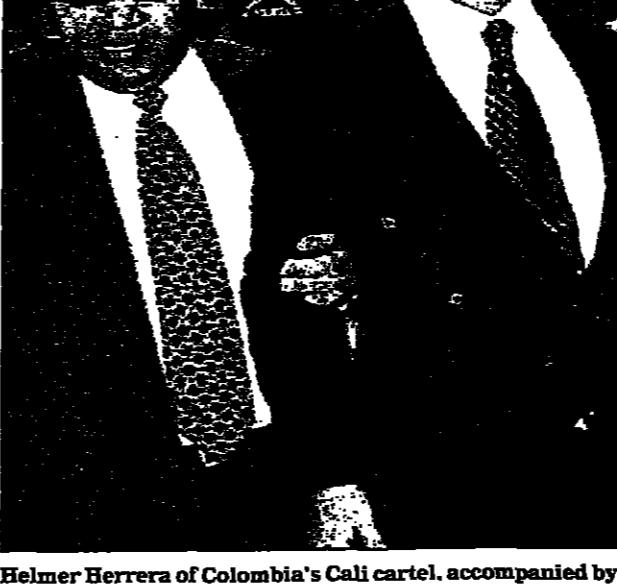
Last of the Cali cartel barons gives himself up

Helmer Herrera of Colombia's Cali cartel, accompanied by his lawyer, voluntarily surrenders to police

Mary Matheson in Bogota

THE last of the Cali cartel drug barons surrendered peacefully to the Colombian police on Sunday after spending more than a year in hiding.

Helmer Herrera, allegedly fourth in the cartel hierarchy, sat waiting for the police in a church pew on the outskirts of Cali with two lawyers and a priest. Wearing a navy-blue double-breasted suit and with



his black hair slicked back, he looked more like an advertising executive than a drug trafficker.

He is the last of seven drug barons on a list drawn up by Colombian and American officials to fall into the hands of the authorities. The other six were arrested in a two-month period last summer.

Mr Herrera, aged 45, is one of the more complex characters in the cartel. He is known to be a bisexual — one of his nicknames is *la niña* (the girl)

— and is said to have spent part of his time on the run disguised as a woman.

He commands fierce personal loyalty from his followers, a fact the police believe helped him elude them for so long. Many of the other barons were betrayed by henchmen in return for cash rewards.

But he was also reportedly one of the most brutal of the leadership. He led the bloody clash between the Cali and Medellin cartels in the late 1980s. He survived two assassination attempts ordered by the Medellin godfather Pablo Escobar, who was gunned down by the police in 1993.

Mr Herrera's fortune, wrapped up in a complex network of front companies, is impossible to estimate. But he is thought to be one of the richest men in the world along with colleagues Gilberto and Miguel Rodriguez Orjuela.

Mr Herrera could receive a 24-year jail sentence for his crimes. But in Colombia, prisoners receive reductions in sentences for surrendering, confessing to their crimes, handing in ill-gained possessions, informing on others and good behaviour. Some even received reductions during the Pope's visit.

These considerations, coupled with the pressure of the police hunt for him, may have been factors which prompted his surrender.

With Mr Herrera now behind bars, the Colombian authorities hailed the demise of the Cali cartel. But American drug enforcement authorities say the flow of cocaine to the United States has not faltered. The Cali cartel supplies 80 per cent of the world's cocaine and is becoming a major supplier of heroin to the US.

glance of their old homes, under the protection of the Nato-led peacekeeping force, I-For.

"If I go to Bratunac to vote when I-For are there, it will make it easier for me to go back later to my home. I know the local Serbs there and I could get in contact with them," Mr Karic said.

His plans are an extraordinary victory of hope over experience. Serb police and nationalist zealots have persistently organised protests to prevent such visits.

Mr Karic spent two years in a Serb prisoner of war camp, which left him so physically broken he had a year in hospital.

A mass crossing of the ethnic boundary on election day could spark innumerable clashes as former Muslim and Serb neighbours confront each other for the first time since the war began in 1992.

Nato plans to channel these cross-boundary voters into a limited number of approved routes, to reduce the security risk, even though this represents a significant limit on the right to free movement.

Most election analysts believe the decision last week to postpone the municipal elections will reduce the incentive to travel, as the election of representatives to national and regional as-

A mass crossing of the ethnic border could spark many local clashes

semblies is generally seen as a less emotive issue than control of town councils.

"Without the municipal elections the numbers who are going to cross are going to be small — perhaps as low as 30,000," said Christopher Bennett, an analyst in an independent monitoring organisation, the International Crisis Group.

There is little sign of an organised effort by the Muslim political parties to transport voters across the line. Mr Karic for example, has no idea how he will get to Bratunac.

The ruling Muslim party, the SDA, has made little attempt to influence where its supporters vote, expecting them, perhaps, to register in their pre-war homes and villages.

This is in line with SDA principles supporting Bosnia's re-ethnicisation, but it could lose the party crucial votes.

The election rules make the 400,000 Muslims registered to vote in the Serb half of the country, the "Republika Srpska", ineligible to vote for presidential candidates standing in the Muslim-Croat federation. Of the estimated 1,500,000 Muslim voters, therefore, 400,000 will not be available to the SDA's presidential candidate, Alija Izetbegovic.

If the Muslim vote is further split by alternative candidates like Haris Silajdzic, the former prime minister, Mr Izetbegovic could be beaten for the post of Bosnia's first post-war head of state by the Serb candidate, Momislav Krajisnik, a fervent supporter of partition who played a leading role in ethnic cleansing.

The penalties for genocide are less severe than for an ordinary murder

during the genocide they will be free in a few years.

"We cannot execute all the killers but they should be given the death penalty and it should be for the courts or the president to commute the sentences of those who cooperate."

Plea bargains are also a recognition of the weakness of many of the cases.

Often the only witnesses are the killers themselves. Charge sheets often contain little more than accusations by a single survivor. Several thousand prisoners have no files at all.

Mr Cahima says the government faced difficulties reconstructing the judicial system after the genocide. He said most of the judges and prosecutors ran away or were killed. The courtrooms were destroyed or looted. We had to train people and we had no money. We had to do it all in a year.

The government has spent \$12 million of foreign aid rebuilding the system. New roofs adorn once-gutted courts. Judges have been recruited. But sceptics say it does not add up to justice.

Sentencing supergrasses

The Home Secretary has got it wrong . . . again

SENTENCING drug dealers to 18 years but letting them out after three is a dangerous new approach to an old trick. But who would have thought Michael Howard — particularly given his hardline campaign for honesty in sentencing — would have fallen for it? There is a well established tradition of offering deals to underworld figures who are ready to help convict their accomplices — turning Queen's evidence as it used to be known in the trade. Some, like Bertie Smalls (who helped convict 26 associates in major robberies 22 years ago) were able to negotiate complete immunity from prosecution. Most "supergrasses" receive sentences but of a lower length. But now the ultimate cynical deal has been exposed: two Liverpool drugs dealers who were given 18 years were freed by Michael Howard after three years on the urging of the trial judge. According to the Home Secretary, the judge felt unable to pass a reduced sentence for fear of acknowledging their cooperation, endangering their lives, and jeopardising further investigations.

If Michael Howard's account is true, the judge has erred in principle and in practice. There are well established witness protection programmes. They were imported from America years ago. They are expensive — requiring safe houses, high security devices, protection officers — but they have been used before. But the deal was wrong in principle too. There could hardly be a more dishonest example of sentencing. It has not just brought shame on the criminal justice system but further eroded its most important underpinning: public trust.

A deafening chorus of silence

Don't blame the West over Iraq. Blame Kurdish internal disunity

MIDDLE EASTERN minds are concentrated powerfully by the prospect of outside powers barging into a delicate minefield. The chorus of silence yesterday in response to US threats of air strikes against Iraq was deafening, and a remarkable solicitude is being shown for Baghdad's sovereignty.

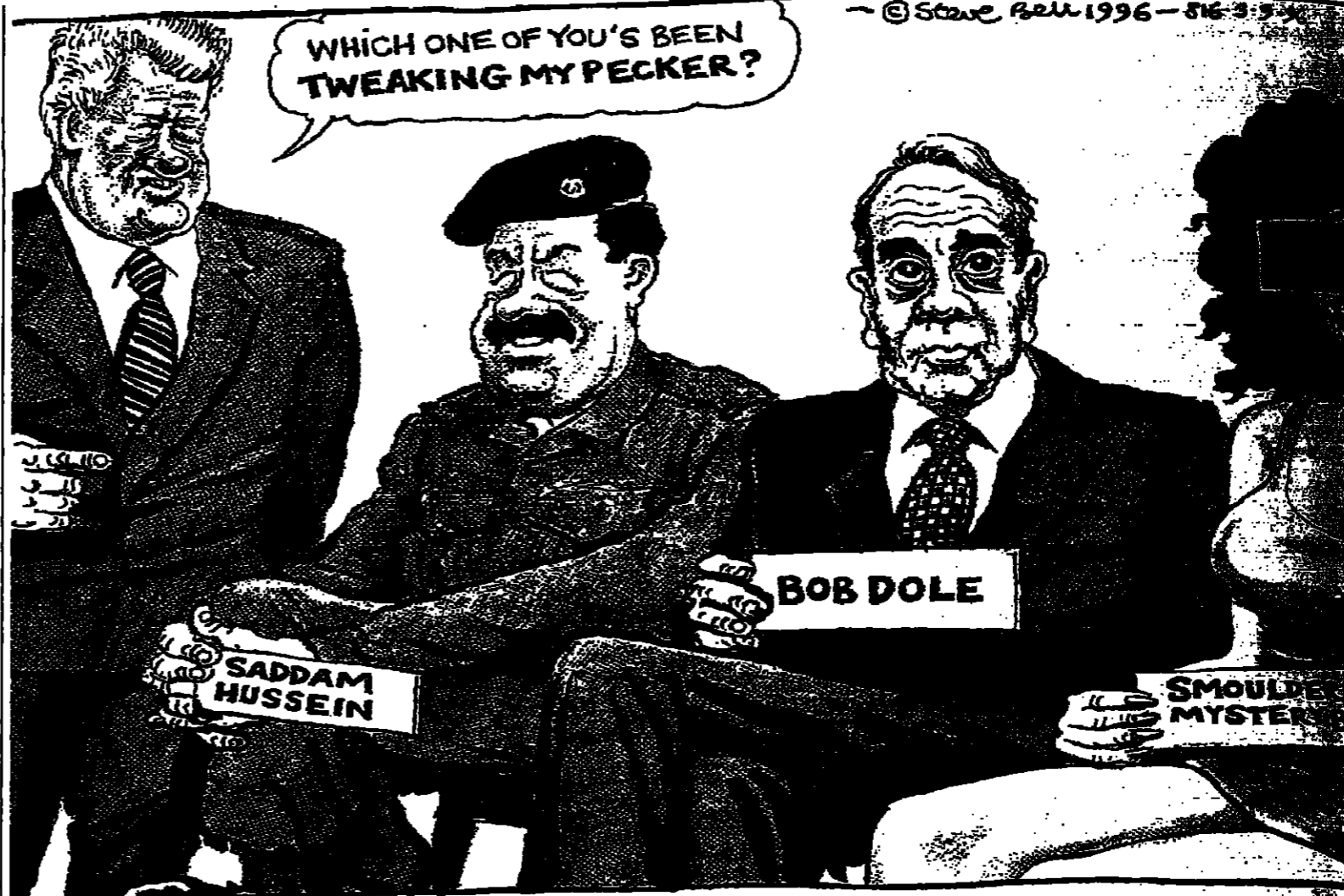
between Bill Clinton and King Fahd on Sunday without even confirming whether they had discussed Baghdad's offensive. Behind this lies not only a disinclination to upset the Iraqi apartheid, but an equal or greater mistrust of the intentions of Tehran who — it is fully understood in the region if not further afield — was the first to join this latest, and increasingly murderous, round of the tragic Kurdish game.

Different from you and me . . .

But not so very different. The lottery rich still like to work

SOME AMAZEMENT seems to have been caused by the discovery, through a survey conducted by Camelot, that more than half of the new millionaires created by them actually want to carry on working. This conflicts with the advice apparently offered by Camelot's own Winners' Advisory Team that most people in their position want to give up. Is it really such extraordinary news? In an age where jobs are fewer to find and (we are always being sternly lectured) not available "for life", one might expect most people to seize the chance to let someone else take over. Yet every serious study of social attitudes towards employment has always shown that work is not only enriching but essential too. We may be fulfilled at various levels, but to do a useful job of work satisfies a very basic necessity. From the age of hunter-gatherers onwards, human beings have been members of communi-

ties where, in a very literal sense, survival depended upon shared labour. Even when work became more specialised, it was still seen as a "division of labour" in the interests of the communal effort. Work has been around from the very beginning. Even Creation did not just happen: it was the Work of God.



Letters to the Editor

Lay off Labour leaders

WONDER whether members of the party's Irritant Tendency ever give a thought to ordinary Labour supporters (Blair urges clean fight, September 2)? We wake up each day fearing the latest onslaught on the leadership, not from the Tories or the tabloids but from the Shorts, Flynn and Mitchells. Their ability to write Brian Mahoney's propaganda from now to the election must make Maurice Saatchi fear for his job.

Given vision to his enemies and pain to his friends. Alan Halden, 66 Laureate Way, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP1 3RU.

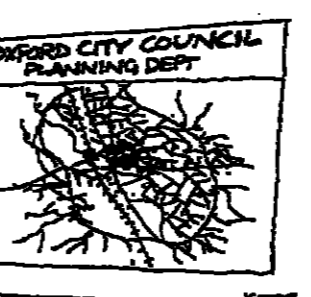
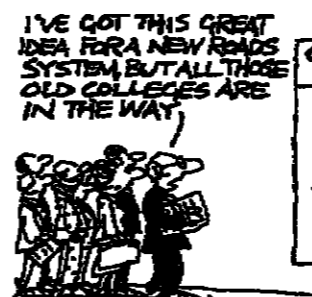
dropped, daily dose of anti-Labour messages. Clare, Tony and Austin have failed to learn from four defeats in a row. Their dissent, coming so near to the next election and with so much hostile media around, makes one question their commitment to the election of a government that just might begin to break the rightwing cultural and political stranglehold on modern Britain. They deserve heavy censure from their colleagues. Peter Carabine, New England Street, St Albans, Herts.

WANT to make the following points to Richard Burden, Paul Flynn, Clare Short, Austin Mitchell and any others with the arrogance to believe that they alone embody the conscience of the Labour Party. Please will you stop kicking Labour Party members like myself in the teeth and concentrate on getting a Labour government elected. Paul Fantom, 33 Park Hill, Wednesbury, W Midlands WS10 0RH.

PREDICTABLY, Jack Straw has followed Michael Howard's lead in calling for the "reintegrative shaming" of persistent juvenile offenders by publicising their identities (Howard may let "rathons" be named, September 2). The anonymity of juvenile defendants has been a central tenet of European and American youth-justice systems for the best part of this century. It is based upon the belief, subsequently substantiated by research, that such stigmatisation can consolidate nascent criminal careers.

Not sporting

IT MAY be that Iain Sproat will repudiate the remarks attributed to him in your report (Political advice sought in bid for sports academy, August 28). If not, you readers may wish to know that...



Cracks in Crystal Palace plan

OXFORD suffers appalling traffic congestion and pollution (Miniature Crystal Palace is under threat, August 31). Oxfordshire County traffic planners would like to pedestrianise the central shopping street by creating a bus priority system, and diverting car traffic onto an unloading inner ring road.

cross up to 11 lanes of traffic. A large area will be covered in Tarmac, noise, and pollutant engines. The LMS building has Grade II* listed status, and is one of Oxford's very few fine non-university buildings. We would like it restored and made a fitting gateway to Oxford as part of a direct pedestrian route. Must this building, like so much of our valuable heritage, fall in the path of the motor car? (Cllr) Sushila Dhall, Oxfordshire County Council Green Group, County Hall, Oxford OX1 1ND.

Gun lover is an easy target

MARY Leigh's protestations (Diary of a gun club member, August 28) that shooting is an innocent pursuit simply do not hold water. Home Office figures for 1995 show that 75 per cent of all gun homicides were committed by legally held weapons.

THE freedom to choose between inanimate or living targets seems a distorted corner to fight so vehemently. My concerns lie more with the growing availability of firearms and their relation to violent crime. Many of the handguns which find their way onto the streets are stolen. Perhaps the first step should be the storage of "recreational" handguns in areas just a little safer than the average semi. Alexia Baracala, Abbotsbury Gardens, Eastcote, Pinner, Middlesex HA5.

A Country Diary

THE LAKE DISTRICT: My daughter-in-law's attempt to "collect" Rough Crag, the only one of the 11 Scafell two-thousanders she had not yet visited, failed on a miserable day of thick cloud and rain. We even had to use the compass to locate Lingsmell from the Corridor Route, so thick was the mist, and from the top of the steep scree down to Little Narrows only a few feet of the descent could be seen. Really, it was the thought that once she had collected the summit — always difficult to find in poor weather — she would have to crawl back up 700 feet of scree to rejoin the main highway from Scafell Pike that tempted her to leave it for another day. Next time, she will try it from the Eskdale side. I remember helping my son to collect these summits from Langdale, more than 20 years ago, on a similar sort of day. We left our rucksack in the corrie, one of the wildest and roughest in the country, before collecting Rough Crag and Pen, one of my favourites Lakeland summits, and then

had the greatest difficulty in finding them again in the clouds among the piled boulders and scree. To complete the 200 or so Lake District two-thousanders, my daughter-in-law, after picking up Rough Crag, has to collect the Pillar area, including Stickle, missed in thick cloud on a traverse of the Mossdale Horseshoe last month, and then finish off with Pillar Rock, an appropriate ending to a modest achievement of which a grandmother can be justly proud. My son, who was brought up on crags by his father, should have no difficulty in gently leading her, roped this time, up the rock which I first climbed more than 55 years ago. I can well remember, on several occasions, sitting on top of the biggest crag in England and looking down the length of Emmerdale, completely bare of trees, before the massive afforestation that completely changed the appearance of the date. A HARRY GRIFFIN

Advertisement for 'Job' and 'acc' on the right edge of the page, partially cut off.

مكتبة النخيل

Diary Matthew Norman

After an increasingly frantic series of messages, the Diary's Youth Culture Correspondent finally calls back. "It's John Redwood," he says, "my office said it was extremely urgent." ...

Union future is in mutual satisfaction

Commentary Geoff Mulgan

Yesterday's Labor Day holiday in the US and next week's TUC congress in Blackpool should be moments for trade unions to celebrate. On paper, everything is going their way. Public confidence in managers has hit bottom. Everyone, from civil servants to assembly-line workers, feels insecure about jobs, and workers are so fed up that unions are now winning three-quarters of the strike ballots they hold. ...

more open global markets, and especially now that consumers of public services are more demanding. Public trust remains low, and may fall lower if the postal workers refuse to hold a ballot. ...

At the same time, the rhetoric of politicians and business leaders about "empowering" people to manage their own employability, to buy into portable pensions and health plans, leaves people cold. ...

would be an organisation charged with organising, managing and selling labour on behalf of its members, but shaped to fit the reality of rapidly changing jobs and much smaller firms. ...

The trade unions promise security but don't deliver it. There is a need for a new institution

time out of work was used as productively as possible. This might sound like a very new creature, but it would be more of a hybrid of existing types of organisation. ...

There's no such thing as a free windfall



Ian Aitken

I know a woman of admirable strength of character who succeeded in giving up smoking some 25 years ago only by promising herself that she would spend the money back to her on a variety of pleasures. ...

the difference, on the basis of a promise that everything will come right next time around? ...

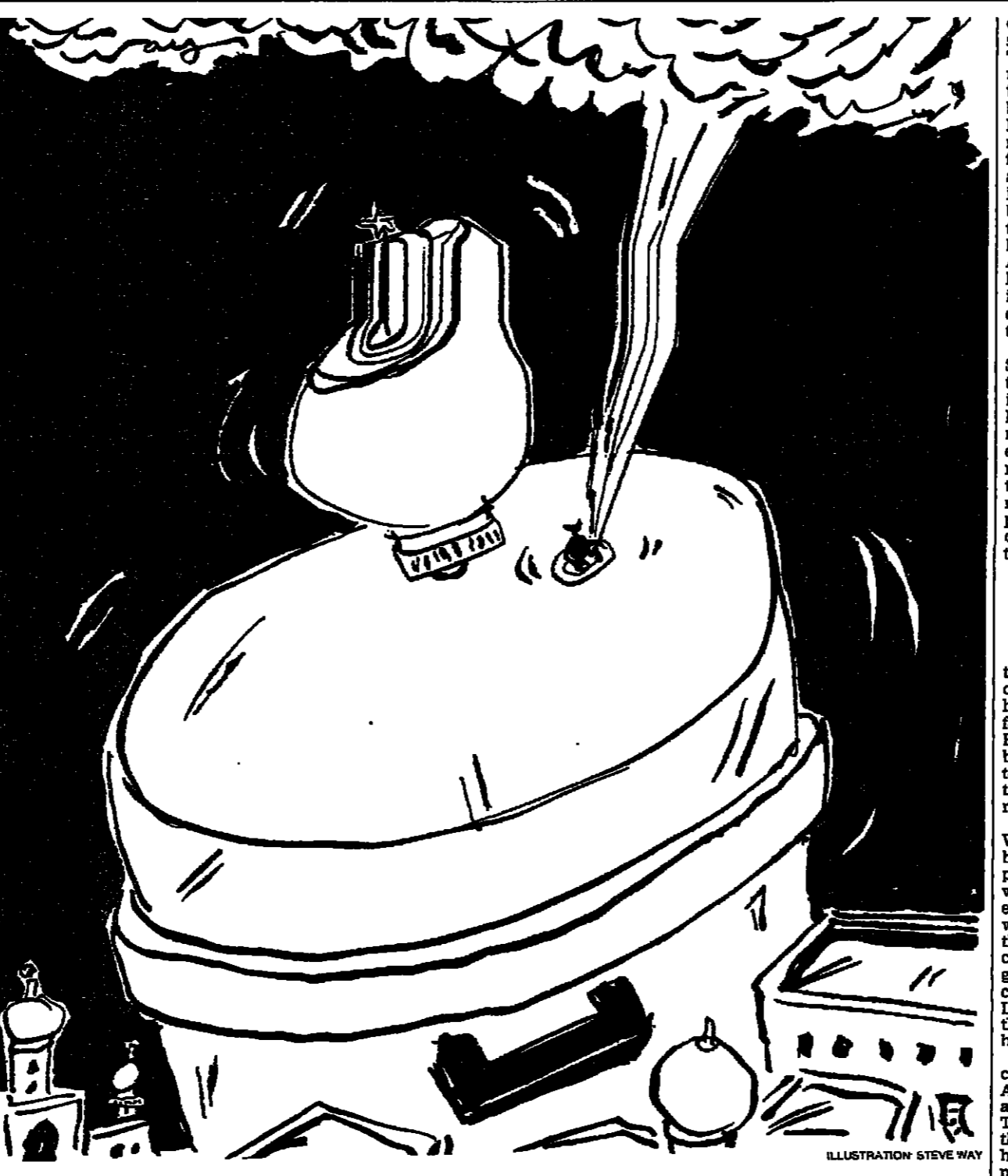
Those stern moralists at London Underground maintain their splendid run of form. Fresh from banning a picture showing two men lying quietly in bed, and touting a charity that supplies gay men with condoms that it couldn't use the words "gay", "sex" or "condom" in its advert, London Underground has tried to stop the soft drink firm Red Bull using a poster. ...

The common perception that security officers as the intellectual also-rans of crime-fighting takes a ferocious battering in this month's Police magazine. One guard, so the Dogberry column reports, rang police to report the passing of a counterfeit note at a chemist's. ...

Attempts by Philip Morris to seduce New Labour appear to have been stubbed out. Not long after paying thousands of pounds into election coffers by taking a table at a Savoy gala dinner, the cigarette giant invited a number of Labour MPs to the British Grand Prix at Silverstone. ...

In the Tatler supplement At Home comes a conception of the perfect dinner party, with seven guests appearing in the style of a Renoir painting. ...

MAN in Boston has killed his wife after a domestic dispute. The man, who is unnamed for legal reasons, took a kitchen knife, slit her open, tore out her heart and lungs and hung them out on the garden railings, after she remarked that he had overcooked the pasta. ...



Pressure cooker

Martin Woollacott on Middle East problems coming to the boil

The Middle East is a region that needs constant management, care and attention. Its capacity to slide into confrontation is unrivalled. Saddam's outrageous strike into Iraqi Kurdistan is only one of a number of recent developments suggesting that both local and outside powers are in danger of losing what control they have in the past exerted. ...

While in Saudi Arabia, a crisis of succession and of purpose afflicts the royal regime. In Iran, the half-hidden struggle between various factions may be sharpening at the end of Rafsanjani's time in power approaches. ...

They both represent blocked movements toward settlement. We only have to ask what the situation in Middle Eastern countries would be like if there was a democratic, federated Iraq on the one hand, and a respectable Palestinian state on the other. ...

It is arguable, too, that the West backed the least effective of Saddam's opponents in the broader Iraqi opposition. While direction faltered over Iraq, a similar thing was happening over Israel. The foresight, in a pinch, of the Bush administration which, by withholding loan guarantees, swung Israeli politics on to a new track, was not repeated by its successor. ...

of pots and pans are constantly coming to the boil. The principal cook in this risky kitchen is, of course, the United States. It is hard to be overly severe, because Middle Eastern countries are neither colonies nor, in any full sense, clients, and they are all awkward customers. ...

Good-bye battery



Welcome to the future: Seiko Kinetic, the first quartz watch that turns your movement into power. Every move you make is converted into electrical impulses by a tiny built-in powerhouse. Ecological, reliable and efficient: wear it one day to gain energy for at least two weeks. ...

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer
Telephone: 0171-239-9610
Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian

Morgan freezes three trusts

Richard Miles and Paul Murphy

PLANS by Morgan Grenfell to take control of the embattled Kleinwort Benson European Privatisation Investment Trust were thrown into doubt yesterday after the asset management wing of the German-owned investment bank suspended one of its top fund managers.

The company has also halted dealings in three of its unit trusts and begun investigating "possible irregularities".

Of 10 suitors which have been fighting for control of the £500 million Kepit fund for the past month, Morgan was widely seen as the leading contender, given its exemplary record in managing European stocks.

Industry benchmarks suggest its Irish-listed European Growth fund, which has £778 million under management, for the past five years has been the second-best performer out of 112 such schemes.

But dealings in this investment vehicle and two others run by by fund manager Peter Young — the £134 million MG Europa and the £445 million MG European Capital Growth fund — were suspended while Morgan and the industry watchdog, Imro, carried out an investigation.

A spokesman for the investment bank said the inquiry would centre on certain un-



quoting stocks common to the portfolios of the three funds. No more than 10 per cent of the funds under management are said to be "at risk", although the spokesman was unable to say when the investigation would be completed or when dealings in the three funds would resume.

"Of course we cannot speculate on the extent these [losses] might be. But we will stand by our shareholders," the spokesman added. He said a maximum of 10 per cent of the Morgan funds may have been held in "unapproved securities".

Mr Young, a well-known "risk-taker" in the fund management world, drawn to the high-risk and high-potential rewards associated with fast-growing technology companies, cleared his desk on Friday. He was unavailable for comment last night.

Morgan Grenfell said invest-

mentors would be compensated for any losses suffered.

The fight for control of Kepit was sparked in early August when Kleinwort Benson, which is owned by Frankfurt-based Dresdner Bank, hatched plans to spend £300 million buying back shares in the investment trust, which has had a disappointing performance record since it was launched in January 1984.

Rival proposals were immediately tabled by several fund management competitors — the latest offer coming from the TR European Growth fund, which has promised to take control of the trust, sell the assets and distribute the proceeds amongst Kepit's 77,000 shareholders.

Morgan Grenfell is thought to have tabled similar proposals, and offered Kepit shareholders the option of swapping their holdings for stock in a number of its existing European funds. These are believed to have included the three funds in which dealings were suspended yesterday.

Morgan Grenfell insisted yesterday that suspension of the funds and of Mr Young had no direct bearing on the group's attempt to take control of Kepit.

A spokesman said Mr Young would not have been in line to manage Morgan's takeover offer was accepted.

The Bank of Ireland is helping Imro with the investigation into Morgan Grenfell's European Growth Trust which is based in Dublin.

Pressure-cooker lifestyle as too few control too much

Richard Miles

THE fate of Morgan Grenfell's star manager, Peter Young, demonstrates the tremendous pressures under which fund managers can find themselves.

With the Government seeking to pass more of the burden for welfare provision on to individuals, investment houses like Morgan Grenfell are managing an increasing proportion of our savings and pensions.

But doubts have arisen in recent months as to how effectively these huge houses are supervised.

In the past week alone, the group of companies run by Robert Fleming, the UK private merchant bank, was fined £700,000 by Imro, the City watchdog, which is responsible for monitoring investment managers, and now Morgan Grenfell is under investigation too.

The need to perform in an increasingly competitive market has put enormous pressure on the individual fund managers, who often

control billions of pounds. Mr Young, 38, is believed to have stepped down at Morgan Grenfell because of the stress level.

After spells at two other top-rated City investment houses, Mercury Asset Management and Equity & Law, Mr Young inherited control of Morgan Grenfell's two biggest investment funds in May, 1994. He managed to maintain the top-level performance for these funds until about six months ago when a series of investments in high-technology companies turned sour.

Ironically, Mr Young's predecessor at Morgan Grenfell Asset Management, John Armitage, quit for what he said was an easier life — setting up his own specialist investment business.

Similarly, Dick Barfield, 49, stepped down in April as head of investment at competitor Standard Life, Europe's largest mutual insurer, saying he wanted a quieter life.

It is going to get tougher still. A survey in March by actuarial group Caps found signs of an increasing concentration of funds in the hands of fewer managers. In 1995, 80 per cent of UK pension assets were managed by just 18 per cent of the total fund management industry.

In the meantime, the unsexy business of back-office administration — settling share transactions and keeping up to date on all the paperwork — has become all the more vital.

The top 10 UK fund managers

Total Assets managed from UK (£bn)

1. Mercury Asset Management	72
2. Prudential Portfolio Managers	58
3. Gartmore	55
4. PDM	52
5. Schröders	48
6. Standard Life	44
7. Norwich Union	38
8. Legal & General	33
9. Morgan Grenfell Asset Management	33
10. Hill Samuel	28

Source: Bacon and Woodrow/CAPS Inform

Notebook

Falling foul of the performance trap



Edited by Alex Brummer

THE fund management industry is beginning to look rather unexciting. At a time when the public is being encouraged to entrust ever greater sums in its hands — through tax advantageous vehicles such as PEPs and defined money purchase pension schemes — it is beset by scandal.

Last week the fund manager regulator Imro (which sprung to fame at the time of the Maxwell affair) came down on Jardine Fleming and its London associate Robert Fleming after a senior fund manager diverted profits to his own account.

Now Deutsche Morgan Grenfell finds itself in the frame. In some respects this is the last group where one would expect irregularities. Morgan Grenfell had more than its share of problems in 1988 when it became embroiled in the share-rigging operation at Guinness and separate insider trading infringements involving securities trader Geoffrey Collier. The loss of prestige and reputation, together with the virtual closure of its securities operation eventually led Morgan Grenfell into the arms of Deutsche Bank.

It might have been thought that, given past experience, Morgan Grenfell should have been particularly wary of aggressive young dealers being profitable gifts. But this is where the control mechanisms inside UK investment houses, be they Barings, Fleming or Morgan Grenfell, start to go wrong. So competitive is the world of investment banking and asset management that there is a tendency for senior officials to be blinded by success rather than asking pertinent questions.

In the case of suspended manager Peter Young, he had shown an ability to deliver through the European Capital Growth Fund and the European Growth Trust. The latter's 165 per cent rise, making it the second best performing European equity fund, is highly impressive.

But it ought also to have been a red flag. In the markets Mr Young was known for his interest in high-flying technology stocks, his willingness to take risks and to have a punt on unlisted securities before quotation — a dramatic way of outperforming everyone else. But the pressure of producing the high returns which Morgan Grenfell gratefully accepted plainly brought its strains.

Now Morgan Grenfell finds itself again at the centre of investigations. It says that the losses, if there are any, will be limited to the three trusts in which Mr Young was involved and that they will be full reparations to investors. Deutsche Bank, having de-

Wising up

GEC could have done without the kerfuffle surrounding George Simpson's arrival as managing director. Simpson was plainly foolish in accepting what turns out to be a softly drawn, long-term incentive package and GEC was uncharacteristically careless in allowing it through.

But the group was so intent on getting its new managing director to exceed Lord Weinstock, its guard seems to have been temporarily down. As a result the announcement at Friday's annual meeting, may be rougher than was necessary even though the terms of the service agreement have now been tightened.

What is most worrying about this whole incident, however, is the role of the GEC share options committee which includes two pillars of the Association of British Insurers — Sir Christopher Harding of Legal & General and Ron Artus, formerly of the Pru.

This pair of wise men should have recognised that the terms of the deal did not meet ABI guidelines. Shareholders could best show their dissent at the meeting by giving Sir Christopher, who is up for re-election, a fright.

GEC backs away from pay row

Lisa Buckingham

GEC, the engineering and electronics group, yesterday bowed to shareholder pressure and agreed to revise the remuneration package on offer to its new managing director in a last-minute effort to defuse an investor revolt at Friday's annual meeting.

In a statement issued last night, GEC said the terms of Mr Simpson's long-term incentive scheme — worth up to four times his salary — had been altered. Mr Simpson will be awarded this bonus only if GEC's share price remains 10 per cent higher than the growth in the FTSE 100 share index for three years, compared with the period of six months set in the original contract.



Cheers... Czech premier Vaclav Klaus baptises with Champagne the Skoda Octavia, whose health is vital to his country's economy. PHOTOGRAPH: TOMAS TURK

House price rise 'fastest since 1989'

Sarah Ryle

HOUSE prices are rising faster than at any time since the boom seven years ago, according to a survey out today.

The Halifax building society says that annual price growth in August rose to 5.7 per cent, the highest year-on-year increase since October 1989.

The Halifax welcomes the relatively small monthly increase of 0.5 per cent in August as proof that the upturn will be sustained.

It leaves its prediction for price growth this year unchanged at 5 per cent. Although prices paid by first-time buyers rose by 0.7 per cent in August to 5.9 per cent above a year ago, new house prices fell for the second month in a row.

The Halifax data brings fresh evidence of buoyant consumer confidence. Separate figures published yesterday showed that rising consumer spending boosted the fortunes of the factory sector in August. The Purchasing Managers' Index, snapshot of hard-pressed manufactur-

ers, showed that the sector grew more strongly in August than City analysts were predicting, with the index reaching 51.8.

Manufacturing output grew at its fastest rate for 16 months, while prices in the sector continued to fall, said Peter Thomson, director general of the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply.

"Overall, although growth is well below the levels we saw in 1994, it is heartening to see a gradual upturn in activity, following the slowdown earlier this year."

The housing and factory fig-

ures will be among the last that the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, will see before meeting Eddie George tomorrow for the monthly meeting on monetary policy.

Most City analysts refused to dismiss the possibility of another 0.25 percentage point cut, but said the probability of any reduction in base rates this month was significantly lower as a result of the fresh signs that the economy is doing well enough without further stimulation.

They warned that another

strong rise in the amount of cash in circulation, traditionally regarded as a guide to levels of consumer demand, should also give Mr Clarke pause for thought.

Andrew Cates, an analyst at UBS, said: "Faced with this set of figures the Chancellor would be hard pressed to persuade financial markets that a base rate cut is justified at the moment — though there is some risk that he will be inclined to ease policy again to suit his political objectives."

Outlook, page 12

Unison to sue insurers over pension sales

Teresa Hunter

UNISON, Britain's biggest trade union, is to pursue dozens of leading insurance companies in the courts after accusing them of abandoning hundreds of mainly young female victims of the pensions mis-selling scandal.

Nurses and other health workers loom large among the union's members who were persuaded to opt out of an attractive company pension in favour of an inferior insurance company scheme. But the union fears that 150 of these employees may not be compensated.

Prudential, Pearl, Allied Dunbar, Hill Samuel, General Accident, Commercial Union, Sun Alliance, TSB, Legal &

General and Scottish Widows are among the large companies which Unison will challenge in court to ensure claims remain within the legal time limit. The union also plans to sue Windsor Life, Imperial Trident, Merchant Investors, Crown Life and London & Manchester.

Glyn Jenkins, Unison's pensions officer, said: "We are dissatisfied with the progress being made by the insurance industry. We feel that we must move now to protect our members' position and we are asking any member who believes they have been given misleading advice to get in touch immediately."

The union is seeking compensation for more than 700 members but believes that 150

claims could be ruled out by the six-year time limit.

Mr Jenkins is concerned that many other victims may be unaware they have a pension claim.

While 1988, the year when membership of a company scheme became voluntary, "was a particular disaster for local government employees", Mr Jenkins pointed out that since then new employees had to opt into a scheme rather than opt out. "We know large numbers failed to do so."

A spokesman for the Association of British Insurers denied members were begging their feet and said they faced "very real difficulties" obtaining appropriate information from company pension schemes.

Cash-rich Alders returns £50m to investors in special dividend

Tony May

THE Alders department store group — which is sitting on a £100 million cash pile after selling its duty-free business earlier this year — is to return £50 million to shareholders through a special dividend.

The group, which is also to reduce its share capital by exchanging 15 new shares for every 10 existing shares, said details of the dividend payment and reverse stock split will be sent to shareholders as soon as Inland Revenue grants the appropriate clearances. After the reverse split, the number of the group's shares will have decreased by

21 per cent to 85.1 million, but their value will be higher.

Chief executive Harvey Lipsitch also said the group had clinched an agreement to purchase eight Owen Owen and Lewis's department stores for £23.6 million cash in deals first mentioned in August.

Mr Lipsitch added that although the new stores would fit in well with the group, he did not expect them to make a contribution to earnings in the first year.

Bosses shun 'fat cat' label as nuclear company is sold off

Nicholas Barnister Technology Editor

DIRECTORS of AEA Technology, the specialist science and engineering business spun off from Britain's state-owned nuclear industry, are seeking to avoid being branded boardroom "fat cats" as the company is sold off in probably the last privatisation before the election.

The board plans to distribute 5 per cent of group profits each year evenly to all 3,500 employees in the form of shares, and employees will be entitled to take part in the company's share option scheme.

However the pathfinder prospectus for the group's expected £200 million placing at the end of the month shows that the executive directors will be entitled to performance-related bonuses worth up to 40 per cent of basic sal-

ary. This compares to the 35 per cent they could get when the company was in the public sector.

New chief executive Peter Watson, who has just made a £4 million profit following the takeover of the Porterbrook rail leasing company, said AEA did not have the scope for boosting profits by further cost cutting. "The company has cut its workforce by 1,100 over the past two years.

Unlike most other privatisations, the AEA offering is aimed mainly at institutional investors. However employees are being encouraged to become shareholders right from the start: each employee will receive £180 worth of shares free and will get extra free shares if they invest further in the company. AEA claims it carries "no significant nuclear liabilities" since these have been left with the UK Atomic Energy Authority.

TOURIST RATES — BANK SELLS

Australia 1,915.0	France 2,654.0	Italy 2,316	Singapore 2,145
Austria 1,578	Germany 2,242.5	Malta 0.5380	South Africa 6.81
Belgium 42.10	Greece 361.50	Netherlands 2,517.5	Spain 189.40
Canada 2,085	Hong Kong 11.75	New Zealand 2,202.5	Sweden 19.19
Cyprus 0.6930	India 55.75	Norway 5.75	Switzerland 1,814.0
Denmark 8.70	Ireland 0.9350	Portugal 231.00	Turkey 120.265
Finland 6.9375	Israel 4.98	Saudi Arabia 5.82	USA 1.5250

Supplied by NatWest Bank (excluding Indian rupee and Israeli sheqel)



Captain's haul... Alan Shearer adds to his goal collection in Moldova

Soccer

David Lacey sees England and the new coach take a potentially tricky opening World Cup mission in their stride

Opening pass mark for Hoddle

IT MIGHT have been better but it could have been a lot worse, and at least the England plane arrived home in one piece. On balance Glenn Hoddle is entitled to feel satisfied with his first weekend's practical experience of life as national coach.

after missing one after took England's third goal with a tenacity which suggested that his international fame was unlikely to return. Nick Barnby's opening goal, however, was the best of the three. Paul Gascoigne's looping header two minutes later could not hide his obvious lack of match fitness.

Leaux, potentially the nearest thing to a wing-back at Hoddle's disposal. The nub of Venables's argument was that playing full-backs in this wide role was a negative move since it restricted the number of natural forwards in any one team.

Premiership: Sheffield Wednesday 2, Leicester City 1

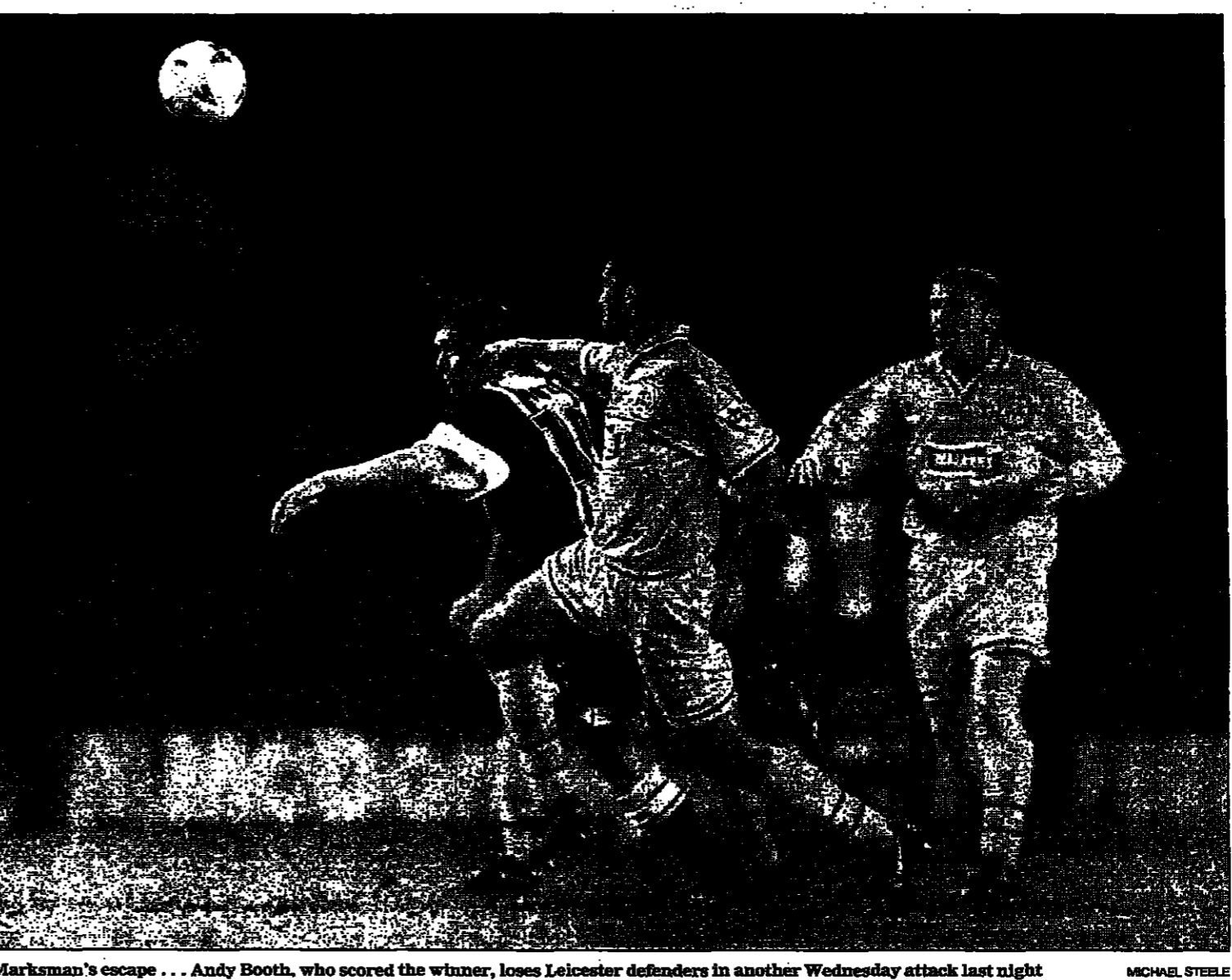
Booth keeps up perfect record

David Hopps

LIFE will get no better than this for Sheffield Wednesday this season. A hard-won victory against Leicester City at Hillsborough last night left them five points clear in the Premiership which, in South Yorkshire at least, will suggest there is now as queer as footballing folk.

flushes of youth but Humphreys and his like have given their manager David Hirst a necessary lift after the trials of last season. "Fast un-Fleat like" was the lugubrious assessment of Leeds United's manager Howard Wilkinson after Wednesday's win at Elland Road last week.

son, the new crop was not averse to an occasionally more direct solution. It paid off as they took the lead again after 50 minutes. Nolan's long ball from the left was collected by Booth, a 22 million summer signing from Huddersfield, whose arrival might have been overshadowed by Humphreys but whose impression has been secure nevertheless.



Marksmen's escape... Andy Booth, who scored the winner, loses Leicester defenders in another Wednesday attack last night

Hartford ready to turn down Lee

Ian Ross

EIGHT days after Alan Ball resigned as manager, the Manchester City chairman Ernesto Lee may find tonight that his search for a successor has turned into a crisis.

have no real desire to go for the job and I have not been approached. People have asked me if I am interested and I have said no. "I am an assistant and I would like to remain as such. But the problem is that a new manager might come in and I could be out of work."

Sheringham blow adds to Spurs' woes

TEDDY Sheringham, Tottenham's England striker, has been ruled out for up to three weeks, adding to an injury crisis which leaves the manager Geoff Hurst without both his main strikers for tomorrow night's Premiership match at Wimbledon.

Results

Soccer

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP
Sheff Wed (1) 2
Leicester (0) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 2
Leicester (0) 1

Boxing

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of the former world champion Julio Cesar Chavez and two of his associates. The Mexican treasury alleges that they have defrauded the government out of what has been reported as about 10.5 million pesos (\$930,000) in tax.

Cricket

The England batsman Alistair Brown has been dropped by Surrey for their crucial County Championship match against Northamptonshire at The Oval. He scored a Texaco Trophy century against India in May but has contributed only three half-centuries in Surrey's pursuit of the title this season.

Motor Racing

Michael Andretti held off Bobby Rahal to win the Molson Indy Vancouver Grand Prix on Sunday, his second successive IndyCar victory. He moves up to second place in the championship series, 14 points behind Jimmy Vasser with only next Sunday's race at Laguna Seca remaining.

Basketball

The Sheffield Sharks looked in excellent shape for the forthcoming season when they won the TopNoord International tournament at Groningen. Their new American wing Vince Williams scored 34 points and the England power forward Roger Ruggins added 20 points and 20 rebounds in their 91-88 victory in the final over Autodorzhnik Saratov.

Team talk
The independent news and reports service
0891 33 77+
Arsenal 06 Ipswich United 19
Aston Villa 11 Leeds United 03

Baseball
American League: Toronto 2, Chicago 4
National League: Cincinnati 1, Florida 6

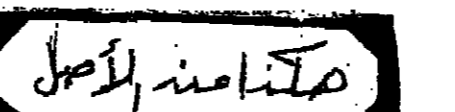
Baseball
American League: Toronto 2, Chicago 4
National League: Cincinnati 1, Florida 6

Cricket
Britannic Assurance County Championship (four days): 11.0.
Southampton 10, Gloucestershire 104

Pools Forecast
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP
1 Aston Villa v Arsenal
2 Leeds v Man Utd

Cricket
Britannic Assurance County Championship (four days): 11.0.
Southampton 10, Gloucestershire 104

Pools Forecast
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP
1 Aston Villa v Arsenal
2 Leeds v Man Utd



Cricket

Illingworth takes stand for dignity

Mike Selvey on the England chairman's appeal before his peers at Lord's

BY THIS time next week Raymond Illingworth's association with international cricket will have ended...

TCCB playing contracts by sounding off in the Daily Express on his return from last winter's tour of South Africa...

Whether he will be allowed to do so with any of the dignity that was his...

Illingworth is hoping that he will be able to call on witnesses today to put the record straight...

Illingworth believes strongly that the first hearing was tantamount to a kangaroo court...

One hopes that sanity will prevail and Illingworth will then head into the sunset with dignity intact...

Scoreboard

Table with columns for match, batsmen, and scores. Includes sections for Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Gloucestershire.

County Table

Table showing county rankings and statistics for the current season.

Cricket

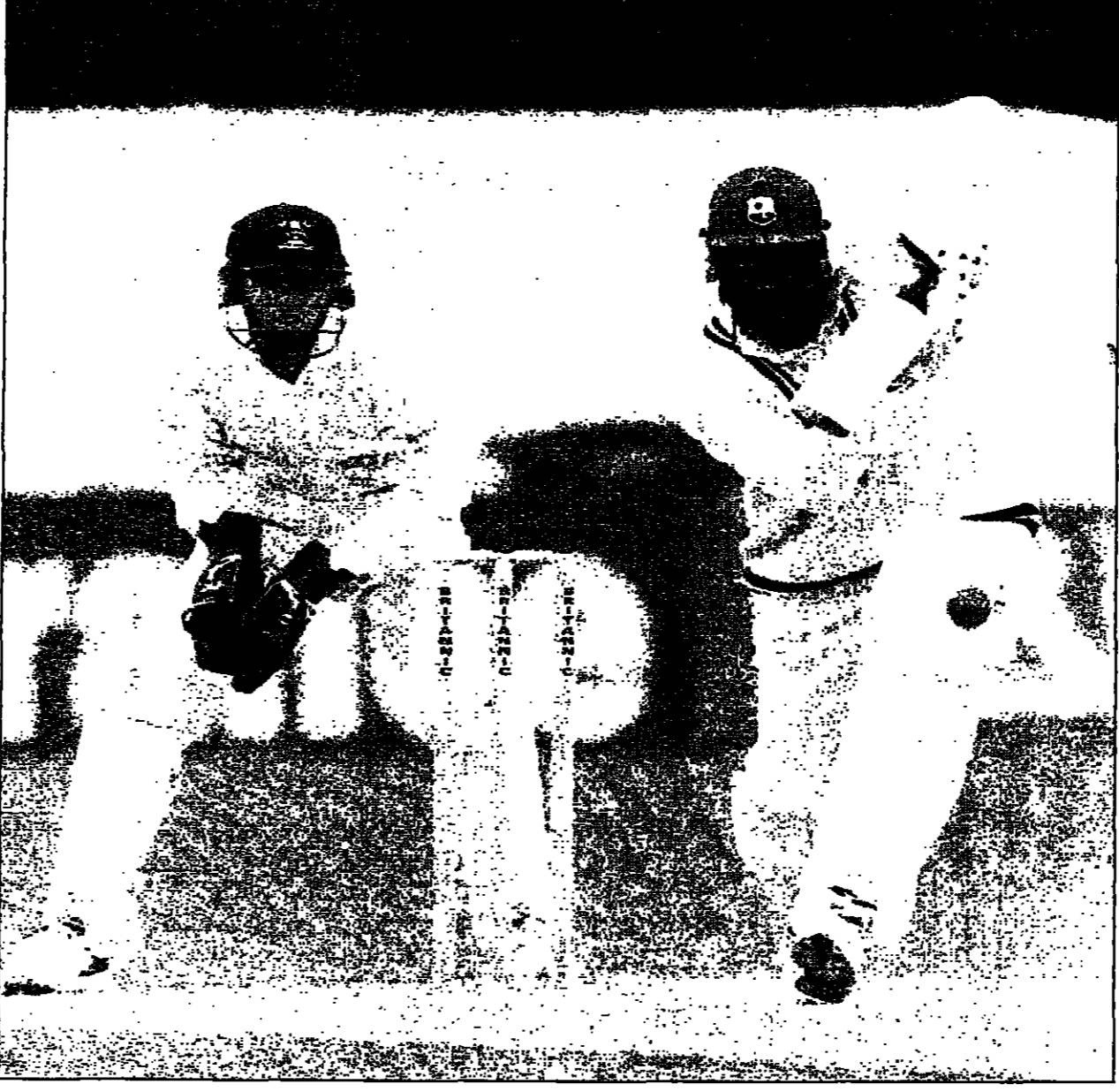
News and Scores

0891 22 88 +

Table listing county updates and complete county scores.

0891 22 88 30

The Guardian INTERACTIVE



Following through... Carl Hooper plays a model off-drive at Tunbridge Wells yesterday on his way to 86 off 80 balls.

County Championship: Kent v Nottinghamshire

Hooper takes icing off top

Paul Weaver at Tunbridge Wells. KENT returned to the top of the championship table with a seven-wicket win over Nottinghamshire here yesterday...

form their miserable history. Hooper is contracted to Kent until the end of next season...

playing for another county." The club's Australian coach Daryl Foster added: "He is currently renegotiating with the county to secure his long-term future..."

languid six over extra-cover off Bowen. The innings took him to 118, his championship runs for the season at an average of 51...

Waqar woos his new principality

David Foot. WAQAR YOUNIS flies home to Pakistan today with a daffodil implanted on his heart. Yesterday he was in Cardiff for the first time...

The agent, Jonathan Barnett, said: "It was the sheer enthusiasm that Glamorgan showed; they went out of their way to point out the appeal of joining a side for whom Viv Richards was recently such a favourite..."

Yorkshire v Essex Byas beats drum as Essex subside on Yorkshire grit

David Hopps at Headingley. DAVID BYAS regards lost causes such as he views vegetarians: he cannot believe they really exist. But when Yorkshire's captain flung his huge farmer's fists into the air to celebrate victory over Essex yesterday, it was to extol a fightback that left him lost in admiration...

Essex, resuming on 100 for five, 148 short of victory, could not knit an innings that had looked terminally frayed from the moment Hussain's intemperance against Vaughan's off-spin had begun his downfall with stumps approaching on the third day...

American Football Johnson and Baltimore celebrate happy returns

Mark Tran in New York. JIMMY JOHNSON and Baltimore made triumphant returns to the National Football League when the NFL returned for a new season. Johnson, the former Dallas coach now in charge at Miami, was worried only that his players would become 'too ecstatic' after the Dolphins ran roughshod over the New England Patriots...

guy came through big time," said Johnson. The normally confident Johnson, who has brought two new players to Miami, confessed to pre-game jitters. "I got a little nervous last night and today," the coach told reporters...

Rugby Union Premier plan for top clubs

Robert Armstrong. TOP clubs in England, Wales and Scotland will shortly consider a plan to streamline Saturday matches by forming a British Premier League within two or three seasons. If radical proposals for the restructuring of domestic rugby, which have been put forward in a discussion document, prove acceptable to the clubs a British Cup may also be introduced...

wealthy entrepreneurs, who have latched on to millions of pounds in the English and Welsh clubs in the past 12 months, are keen to enhance the spectator appeal of professional club rugby by setting up a league that would maximise top-quality fixtures. They believe that television and sponsors will begin to invest serious money in club competitions only when they have eliminated dull, one-sided matches...

Rugby Union

Premier plan for top clubs

Support for a British Premier League has grown steadily within the English Professional Rugby Union Clubs organisation (EPRUC) and First Division Rugby Ltd (FDR), the company that represents the commercial interests of the leading Welsh clubs. The Scots have also been consulted informally, but the Irish clubs, who have been kept in the picture, are thought unlikely to take part because of the growing exodus to England of their elite players...

Initially the British Premier League would comprise six clubs each from England and Wales plus three from Scotland. They would play one another twice a season, home and away, producing a total of 28 matches for each club. The separate national leagues in England, Wales and Scotland would continue but without the elite clubs, and would operate as a feeder system which would allow three clubs - one from each country - to be promoted and relegated from the Premier League at the end of each season.

Motor Racing

Jordan may give Hill another start

Alan Henry. DAMON HILL will devolve an old partnership if negotiations for him to join the Silverstone-based Jordan-Peugeot team prove successful. In the wake of Frank Williams's decision to dispense with his services, yesterday it was confirmed that the Jordan team had already held talks with the world championship points leader and would be meeting him again in the near future...

not an issue. Driving for Jordan, Hill would have to accept substantially less. The Jordan team are currently in their sixth season of Formula One but lie a distant fifth in the constructors' championship after 18 of the 16 races. After a promising start, with Rubens Barrichello scoring fourth places in the Argentine and European grands prix, the team's form has faded.

Mercedes motorsport manager Norbert Haug has played down talk of a place in the McLaren team, who already have available for 1997, said Phillips. "Now that he is, we must reassess our situation and plans." Hill was reputedly asking more than \$8 million (£5.3 million) for a one-year extension when his negotiations with Frank Williams foundered, but Williams has made it clear that money was

Rugby League

Chorley go name-dropping

Paul Fitzpatrick. CHORLEY Chiefs, the Second Division club, yesterday moved in with Preston North End soccer club in what Chorley hope will be a first step towards a place in the Super League. The Chiefs will now be known as Central Lancashire, but as the only professional club in the county they could adopt the playing name of the Lancastrians.

Dezdale, with its impressive 8,000-seat Tom Finney stand, will eventually become a 30,000 all-seater stadium and would clearly become a candidate for rugby league representative games. Lancashire's answer perhaps to Huddersfield's McAlpine Stadium. At present Chorley's support is numbered in the low hundreds, but their chairman Jeff Mallinson believes the move from Victory Park, where the Alliance and Academy sides will continue to play, will encourage more support and give the club greater financial strength. Bryan Gray, chairman of

Hingis storms to the quarter-finals, page 13
Rugby clubs propose British League, page 15

Hodde's reasons to be cheerful, page 14
Kent keep up the title chase, page 15

SportsGuardian

REVENGE VICTORY OVER TODD MARTIN SETS UP CLASH WITH RETIRING SWEDE



On the rebound... Tim Henman avenges his straight-sets Wimbledon defeat by Todd Martin under the Flushing Meadow lights

PHOTOGRAPHS: PETER MORGAN

Henman tilts at a legend

Stephen Bierley at Flushing Meadow on a British examination by Stefan Edberg

HE HAS practised with him, learned from him and been inspired by him. Today Tim Henman must put the living tennis legend of Sweden's London-based Stefan Edberg behind him, play the ball not the man, and fight string and graphite for a place in the quarter-finals of the US Open. As Henman put it: "The last thing you need to do is look at the other end and think, 'I'm playing one of the greats.' I'll just be concentrating on my own game and hopefully I can play as well as I did on Sunday."

which will bring him £300,000 in appearance money alone. Flushing Meadow is a special place, notably during the night sessions when the two huge scoreboards on the vertiginous main stadium shine every bit as brightly as Bradway's neon. The arena is a frothing, heaving vat of reeking humanity; it appears impossible for spectators to sit still here for more than a minute. T-shirts are bought at whim, pizzas consumed irrespective of the state of play, and in the middle of Henman's third set against Martin thousands simply upped sticks and left; they are not interested in losers. Martin, ranked 13th in the world, had ended Henman's hopes of a Wimbledon semi-final this summer as cleanly as a pioneer's axe, beating him in

straight sets. This time the reversal was doubly sweet in Martin's own backyard, Henman winning 6-2, 7-6, 6-4. After the British No 1 walked off court John McEnroe, who is proving a splendidly trenchant and amusing commentator for USA Network, rushed down to congratulate him with genuine warmth. "The British should be pretty pumped up. This guy has great potential." David Felgate, Henman's coach, rated the win even higher than the first-round Wimbledon victory over Russia's Yevgeny Kafelnikov, the French Open champion. "For the first set and a half it was the best tennis I've ever seen Tim play."

Martin, it must be said, was hampered by a heavily strapped elbow which cut his serving power considerably. Yet it was typical of his generous spirit that the 6ft 6in Florida-based player from Hinsdale, Illinois refused to make excuses. "I played the cards that were dealt. I had my chances." These came at 5-4 in the second set. Martin had a couple of set points but Henman, previously struggling to keep his concentration, slammed the door shut to become the first British player to reach the fourth round here since John Lloyd in 1984. Lloyd eventually lost to Jimmy Connors in the quarter-finals. Both Henman and Felgate recognise the danger of the 21-year-old Briton's occasional lapses of concentration. "When I do play my best tennis I'm a good player," said Henman. "It's the other times that I'll let back the very top players. We know it's a problem; now we have to deal with it."

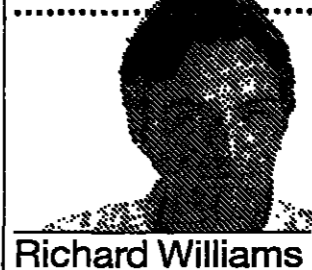
Edberg, 30, playing his last Grand Slam tournament before retirement, reached the fourth round with a comfortable 6-4, 7-6, 6-1 win over Paul Haarhuis of the Netherlands. "Tim is going to go out there very much the underdog," said Martin. "Don't let 30 years old and the savanara tour fool you. Stefan is playing as well as I've ever seen him play in a few years, and I think he will come a little bit better equipped than I was."



One for you... Henman salutes his coach in victory

More US tennis, page 13

Why Williams dropped the £5 million man



Richard Williams

SO YOU want to know why Damon Hill isn't good enough for Frank Williams. Or, to put it another way, why a man worth £5 million a year ago is apparently worth nothing now, despite winning more than half the Formula One races held this season. What on earth could persuade Williams to reject the services of a driver who may well wrap up the world championship in Italy on Sunday afternoon? A man who has worked happily with the team for six years?

fortune as excuses to demonstrate their virtuosity, thrilling the crowd by slicing through the field. Maybe Hill was just unfortunate that a camera was focused on him as he came up behind Martin Brundle's fifth-placed Jordan on lap 21 and tried to overtake into Les Combes, a right-hander which offers the Spa circuit's best passing opportunity. At this point Hill's Williams, the best car in the field, was three seconds a lap faster than Brundle's Jordan, a margin that should have made overtaking easy. But the world could see what happened when Hill drew alongside, taking the inside line as they approached the corner. Suddenly he seemed to think better of it, braking early and dropping back, letting Brundle take his usual line through the corner. Schumacher — and Villeneuve, Hakkinen, Alesi and probably quite a few others — would have outbraked the Jordan, leaving Brundle to worry about the consequences. There is no time for second thoughts in the business of driving a racing car. It took Hill five more laps to get back up to Brundle, ready for another go at the same corner. This time he brought it off, but as he went past a strange thing happened. He made the Williams lunge across the track towards the Jordan, as if unconfident of his ability to bring off the manoeuvre without a hint of intimidation — or as if, after his failure five laps earlier, he felt he needed to make a public show of aggression.

Hill, his nerves jangling as the race for the championship nears its climax, had already messed up the job of getting pole position, foiled when the rain came during the qualifying session, ceding the initiative to his team-mate Jacques Villeneuve. Bad luck. Bad timing. But a truly great champion suffers from neither. The likes of Fangio and Senna had a poker player's sixth sense telling them when to draw and when to hold. In this generation, Schumacher has it. By those standards Hill is mortal, like the rest of us. Then he made an indifferent start to the race. He has been doing that all season, leading to the extraordinary sight of a pole-sitter, world champion being treated like a learner driver. Try to imagine Schumacher allowing himself to be dragged into public explanations of his difficulty in co-ordinating the movements of the throttle and clutch pedals. And then, for one reason or another, Hill's pit-stop routine went wrong, making him look foolish as he dodged in and out of the slip-road barriers like an advert for the Cones Hotline. Even when he found himself back in 13th place after that little misadventure, he had the opportunity to show what he can do in hot blood. Fangio, Moss, Clark, Senna and even Prost occasionally used such episodes of mis-

A WHOLE theory can plausibly be erected on the basis of a single incident such as this, but there have been several other examples of Hill's flawed decision-making in the heat of battle, and Williams has clearly seen enough of them to reach a logical conclusion that, though he may be a first-class test driver, he lacks a racer's edge and at 36 is unlikely to develop one now. Hill's financial demands are beside the point. They are not, in any case, excessive. No, Williams knows that next season, facing Schumacher and Ferrari, his team will need every ounce of competitive advantage, and one way is to raise the level of internal competition by confronting Villeneuve with a new threat from inside the team. If I were Hill, I would draw a line under the past four years. And if I were Villeneuve, I would watch Frank Williams more closely from now on.

Jordan step in, page 15

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Across

- War-time recollection? (4-2)
- Day time's foggy? Clear windscreen (6)
- Forces English soccer to undergo change (7)
- Swell acting seen in the theatre (7)
- Used Information Technology to the best advantage? (4,3,4,2,2)
- Custom said to be OK (4)
- I'm leading rail trip to Norfolk town. It's different (10)
- I provide a turn but may dry up in summer season (10)
- Upper Circle (4)
- The average supporters tend to flag (8,7)
- Cast end in disharmony with what should harmonise (7)
- Split allowance? (7)

Down

- Enact old bit of action in play consisting of short accounts (9)
- Firm set up in dead place (6)
- Beck seat (9)
- Club with records inside showed I scored (6)
- Spoil one spell by the sea? (8)
- Lady with a file — initially a collection of papers (5)
- Made concessions having order within involved (11)
- No politician holding promises of money left disreputably (11)
- Leading committee on the right (9)

15 The property could be arable land he sold rashly (9)
16 Secondhand vehicles needing repair scared us (4,4)
19 It's crazy for person to come down on one account (6)
21 A passage in Emma is legendary (5)
22 Angry? Not the mole (5)
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